



DAWSON DAILY NEWS

DAWSON N.W.T. SEPTEMBER 1898



*Midsummer
Turnover*



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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

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GENERAL OUTFITTING

Groceries, Hardware, Stoves, Tinware, Etc.

COMPLETE LINE OF

Blacksmiths', Carpenters', and Machinists' TOOLS

A. S. ROBINSON, General Manager.

THE CATTLE SYNDICATE, Ltd....

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Health

and

Wealth

Depend on
Good Eating
and Saving in Living

Is Established Permanently in Dawson

Because Its Business Methods are Square
and Its Prices Are Never Underbid.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

FRESHLY SLAUGHTERED BEEF, PORK and MUTTON

From our own yards. Cattle Well Fed and Grazed
in the Yukon District. Meat Sweet, Tender and Palatable.

ALL ORDERS FILLED ON SHORT NOTICE.

LARGEST SUPPLY OF MEATS IN YUKON TERRITORY

OFFICE AND SHOP
CORNER OF FIRST AVE. AND SIXTH ST., DAWSON, Y. T.

C. W. THEBO, Manager.



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DAWSON DAILY NEWS.

SPECIAL MINING EDITION.

Dawson as a Permanent Business Center.



YEAR ago, or probably, to be more accurate, some time during last summer, the population of Dawson was anywhere from 30,000 to 40,000. Of course, at that time the population was very shifting, moving from here out to the creeks and back, or from here to most distant parts of the world, going home again. Yet, during all last fall and winter there was probably in Dawson and on the creeks, in the Indian River and Klondike divisions, a far larger population than there is today. A census has been taken lately by the N. W. M. P., which shows that the population of the town is 4,445. Any one looking down upon Dawson from the road high up on the hill, as he comes over from the Klondike, would say that this is a very small population for a town containing so many buildings. Hundreds of cabins in Dawson are owned by men who do not live in town, but are out on the creeks a large part of the year, and so are not included in this census. The large trading and transportation companies have immense stores, warehouses and office buildings that are busy beehives of industry. But they have not been built and are not now maintained for the population of Dawson, but for the miners on the creeks.

Dawson, after all, is but a supply point for the mines. Its warehouses, its banks, its hotels, its theaters, its newspapers, are all catering rather to the men of the creeks than to the demands of the town.

One of the best clubs in Dawson has sent a notification to all its members that the usual fees of \$10.00 a month for June, July and August have been remitted for the simple reason that nearly all the members are out of town.

In most of the great mining districts of the world, towns such as Dawson have grown up—but it by the prospector and poor miner, and then died down and been deserted and given over to the blizzards and squirrels as their only inhabitants, until such time, years after, that capital would come in and rebuild them. But things move more quickly nowadays, and the prospector is hardly allowed to leave Dawson before capital follows him upon his heels and prevents him from going to decay. While Dawson has lost in population during the past year, it has gained in wealth, and now there is being built up a substantial city that will last for a great many years. A year ago the water front was lined with boats, built at Bennett, and on which thousands of people had flocked down to Dawson. A large proportion of these camped either on their boats or in tents on the townsite, and the place looked more like a tented army than a city. Today there are few boats and nearly all of the people are building permanent residences, if they have not already done so.

There are now in Dawson nearly 800 women, or nearly one-fifth of the population. Quite a large proportion of these are the wives of men who have come here to make this their home. A year

ago few would have thought of asking their wives to come to the place, partly because they were uncertain of a future for the town and partly because of the difficulties of life here. Now all this is changed, and with the conveniences which have been brought in or established here, and with our marvelously pleasant climate, owing largely to the dryness of the atmosphere, the average man feels that he can make a home as comfortable along the Yukon as in nearly any other part of the world.

Last year, because the townsite had not at that time been drained and food supplies being very meager, there was a great deal of sickness, mainly typhoid fever and scurvy. The day of scurvy and typhoid has gone by, and there remains today in Dawson, monuments in their honor built by the liberality of the miners—a large number of empty hospitals.

We are now in telegraphic communication with the outside world, and London capital, now seeking investment here, will be able to keep in touch with the country, and this means very much for its welfare. A large part of the gold output that comes from the mines, heretofore has been taken to the outside, and as a consequence there has been need for the introduction of capital, but want of communication has done much to retard its incoming. One mining engineer, in touch with London capital, tells us that last March he received a letter dated in the preceding October, asking him to report upon claims that were at that time being offered on the London market. Under those circumstances, of course, their report could have been of no value. Now there is no reason why Dawson shall not be, for the future, in close touch with the financial centers of the outside.

In the winter of '97 and last winter a trip from Dawson to the outside was regarded as an arduous undertaking. Now there is no reason why, even in winter time, this trip should not be made by anyone with a very reasonable degree of comfort, and at a comparatively small expense. Of course, there are many things lacking that we could desire to make Dawson a comfortable modern town; for example, we have no proper express or parcel post service, we have no street cars or hacks, and a "shine" costs 50 cents; but we can get good meals at reasonable prices, have first-class restaurants, good hotels, as well-appointed clubs as may be found in much larger cities in other parts of the world, and as many churches as are necessary for the population. It may seem to the man on the outside that Dawson has not much use for churches; but it may well be said in reply that whether the good people of Dawson attend church in as large proportion as they do in cities in civilization or not, they certainly give them far more liberal support. We have good government so far as the prevention of crime goes and protection of property. For this we owe thanks to the Northwest Mounted Police. There is much to be desired yet in respect to town government by the people themselves. This will all come about, no doubt shortly, because the necessary machinery has

been set in motion to give Dawson self-government.

The building up of immense warehouses by the trading companies, the establishment of banks with permanent buildings, the building of large hotels, the grading and numbering of streets, the building of permanent residences by the business people of Dawson who propose to live here, the establishment of an exceptionally good fire department, all mean the expectation of a permanent future for Dawson. But above all this, and beyond all this, the fact that a number of millions of dollars have come in here from London under the direction of picked mining engineers, to be invested with the view to the forwarding of further many millions, gives greater emphasis.

Up to the present time all our supplies, of every nature in the way of food, have come from the outside, with the exception of a little game and fish. Enough has been done during the past year or more to demonstrate the fact that we can grow here, within a few miles of Dawson, a large quantity of vegetables, to supply the local market; and there is no reason why, within a year or two, we should not be as well off as are the people of the more northern countries of Europe who live solely upon the resources of their own neighborhood.

Dawson is now, and will probably be for many years, the capital of the Yukon country. It has a beautiful site, and is in what we, who have been here for any length of time, know to be a glorious climate. The time should come before long when this will be a resort for tourists, both in summer and in winter, who, tired of the older and more beaten tracks, care to look at new fields. No more beautiful scenery can be offered in Norway or other northern countries of Europe than we can show here on the Yukon.

A year ago or more it would seem ridiculous to make these statements about Dawson and about the Yukon country, but experience and enterprise have done so much to develop the natural resources of the country, that the general aspect has entirely changed. A year ago it was supposed that people would always carry water from the river, in the shape of ice, to their cabins. Now a number of companies are in the field bidding for everybody's custom, and bringing water in through pipes to every cabin door. This, in itself means the saving to the inhabitants of Dawson of almost infinite toil and large sums of money. This subject might be pursued, to show how much more comfortable life is in Dawson than it was a year ago. Some of us, who are old "sour-doughs," can appreciate what we went through in those old times, but the world will never know.

Since the foregoing was written, Dawson has been connected by wire with the outer world, and the pleasant tick of the telegraph instrument can now be heard day and night in the main office of the government building back of the barracks, bringing the news from Skagway of the most important recent happenings throughout the world, and

sending the news from the Yukon to friends and firms in all parts of Canada and the United States. Dawson has heretofore been isolated from the outer world and dependent upon uncertain steamer service for mail matter and other news information from the outside world.

In winter, with the Yukon locked in a barrier of ice, our people have been for months without a word from home and friends and practically shut off from civilization. Today the conditions are changed, and no matter what delays may occur in the arrival or departure of mail matter over the ice during the winter, the single wire stretched over a distance of 600 miles, with its initial point in Skagway and its terminus in Dawson, will always be in a condition to keep us in close touch with the coast, and enable our friends on the outside to know the principal happenings that may vary the daily events of life on the Yukon. The construction of this telegraphic line was an excellent stroke of enterprise, for which the Ottawa government cannot be given too much credit for the good work accomplished so successfully and in so short a space of time; for the belief has prevailed generally that because this was a government undertaking the work would be dragged to such a length that the end of the wire would never reach Dawson before next year.

The final result, however, has been a pleasant surprise, and, whereas a year ago there existed a feeling of mistrust of the government's intentions toward this section of the country, today the people of Dawson, with a telegraph wire at their door, are ready to change their views. They are now willing to believe that the Dominion government is at last beginning to appreciate the value and importance of its possessions here, and about ready to legislate in the interest of the people seeking fortunes here and of capitalists seeking investments. Not only was this government telegraph line put through with as little delay as possible, but it was finished fully a month and a half ahead of the time set by the government for its completion. All this is due largely to the honesty and Scotch pertinacity of the gentleman placed in charge of the construction of the line, Mr. J. B. Charleson, one of God's noblemen, of whom the Canadians may well be proud, and who only considered his work accomplished when he had the wire in Dawson connected with the central office, and that fact wired to his Minister in Ottawa. Not only did Mr. Charleson accomplish his task within the time allotted him by his Minister, but, by his careful and economical management, succeeded in building the line at a cost that will save the government something like \$30,000 from the amount appropriated for that work. A better showing could not possibly be made, and it is doubtful if it ever has been by any man connected with the government office. The details of the construction of that line form an interesting page in the history of the gold fields of the Yukon, and Mr. Charleson's name will always be pleasantly remembered in connection with it. A line to Atlin was completed simultaneously with the one in Dawson.

DAWSON DAILY NEWS.

H. G. STEEL, Editor and Gen. Mgr.

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" One year		100.00

Address all communications to the DAWSON
DAILY NEWS.**OUR SPECIAL EDITION.**

Here we are again—the DAWSON DAILY NEWS—first in the journalistic field of the Yukon to furnish Dawson with an up-to-date daily newspaper; first in the field of telegraphy to give the Dawson public the first batch of press dispatches from the outside world over the line just completed; and now, in the enterprising field of trade, industry and commerce, again the first to give to the world the first complete and elaborate Special Mining Edition ever published on the Yukon. Every word of which was specially prepared and printed in Dawson, thus carrying out the principle of home industry to the letter. The success of the DAILY NEWS during the two months of its lustrous existence has been almost phenomenal and, of course, exceedingly gratifying to its manager, who points with pardonable pride to a record of daily, weekly and special edition is never attempted here, and seldom equaled in the history of journalism in the larger cities of Canada or the United States.

The present Special Mining Edition embraces, as concisely as possible, a history of mining in the Yukon Territory from the first discovery of gold, when only a few hardy white men were in the country, down to the present date, with its floating population of over 50,000, and with mines and other industries developed and in working operation to an extent that involves millions of dollars. As everything in this wonderful country of gold centers around its more wonderful mineral deposits, considerable space in this edition has been devoted to the more important creeks in the Klondike and Indian River Districts, showing their peculiar formations, their discovery, their outputs and the great future still in store for them and the country in general. The benches and side hills claim, the great importance and value of which are now so fully appreciated, have also been given the necessary space to intelligently enlighten those on the outside not conversant with this, practically, new factor in the history of placer mining. The evolution in the working of placer propositions have been most radical, and, from the crude methods in vogue only a few years ago, they have reached the present era of steam thawers, hoisting, hydraulic and dredging machinery.

In order to insure the accuracy of all the mining information to be given to our readers, the DAILY NEWS, at a heavy expense, employed the services of an agent whose knowledge and practical experience on all matters connected with mines and mining was supplemented by an equally useful and practical experience as a newspaper man. This gentleman, fully equipped, was, some time ago, sent out to the creeks, and instructed to spare no expense in securing the best and latest possible information relative to the mines of the several creeks, their owners, output, and future prospects. That this work has been well and faithfully accomplished has already been acknowledged by the many who have seen the first proofs of this edition, and our readers can safely depend upon the reliability of

every statement contained within the twenty-eight pages of matter that make up this, our first annual Special Mining Edition.

A number of special articles on special mining subjects, written or dictated by experts in their several lines, will also be found in this edition. The writers of these are well known in the mining world, and their names are full guarantee for the truth of their several statements.

The business interests which have sprung up in this country, as a natural result of the great gold finds, have not been neglected, and will be found fully dealt with in general and in detail. The transportation companies, the vast amount of capital invested in private enterprises, the volume of business done and doing and the wonderful possibilities are set forth in an educational form, and will prove of great value for inducing foreign capital to come in and share the good fortune of those already in the field.

The great possibilities for the investment of capital in industries other than mining will also be found of general interest, as they invite the attention of those interested in timber lands, in brick yards, lime kilns, coal and copper mines. There are great opportunities here for energetic contractors, especially in the next few years, as the need for large, substantial, fire-proof buildings is becoming daily more apparent, and these will have to be erected in the near future to insure full protection to the immense stocks of goods accumulated and accumulating in the field.

The history of Dawson and its meteoric career, Phoenix-like rising out of the ashes of several conflagrations, will be found in this edition, showing its phenomenal growth in less than two years' time from a camp of one tent to an established city of some 5,000 inhabitants, whose permanency is no longer a question of doubt, and which, owing to geographical position and capital already invested, will always be the metropolis of the Yukon country.

It had been the aim of the manager of the DAILY NEWS to illustrate this edition with half-tone illustrations. The plant covering the material and photographic machinery necessary for this failed to reach us in time. This will account for the absence of illustrations in this present issue, as it was deemed preferable to omit any and all pictures that would not do credit to the publication or the subject matter illustrated. This engraving plant will reach Dawson over the ice early this winter, after which we will be in a position to picture the current events of this country with the daily and weekly issues of the DAILY NEWS.

That the public at large has already fully appreciated the enterprising spirit that underlies the DAILY NEWS is best evidenced by the large and rapidly increasing circulation of the daily in the city and the weekly on the creeks. The present Special Mining Edition has also been so extensively advertised that orders for many thousands of copies have already been booked, and are coming in daily to an extent that has necessitated increasing the original edition of 10,000 to 15,000 copies. As a local, public-spirited enterprise, the public has been generously kind in appreciating and seconding our efforts. A special force of agents and writers has been at work on this edition, which is gotten out on a scale never before attempted, and every care and precaution taken to insure accuracy in details of statements made. Thousands of copies of this edition will be mailed to the leading newspapers of Canada, England and the United States, and the advantages of such an extensive advertisement to Dawson and the mining interests of the Klondike will be appreciated by those who know the full value of printers' ink.

DISCOVERY OF KLONDIKE GOLD.

To George Carmack and his Indian wife and Indian brothers-in-law is due the credit of making the first discovery of gold in the Klondike district. The subsequent booming of the camp, however, resulting in the discovery of rich finds on Bonanza and Eldorado, are said to have been an aftermath and due to Joseph Ladue, who, being interested in the find and having a saw mill on Dawson's present townsite, was desirous of creating a lively mining camp. This he succeeded in doing to so successful an extent that it exceeded his fondest anticipations. It is, therefore, perhaps more largely due to Mr. Ladue's business tact and sagacity than the wealth of the Klondike has been unearthed than to Carmack's Indian relatives.

All this happened in the summer of 1896. At that time, while Carmack was returning from Gold Bottom with his family and relatives, the party stopped for lunch on the present discovery site of Bonanza, at that time known as Rabbit creek. While cooking, Skookum Jim panned gravel from a bar showing bed-rock, and secured a few cents in colors to the pan. Carmack, who had no faith in the creek, called to him to stop wasting time and come to his meal. The Indian, however, continued panning, and got as high as 15 cents to the pan. This aroused Carmack's interest, and he also commenced panning, and secured the same rich results. The party then returned to the mouth of the Klondike and reported the find to Ladue. Seeing the great possibilities in the discovery, Ladue sent Carmack to Fortymile to spread the news. Carmack went down, and so magnified the actual report of his find that the miners of the Fortymile district, which latter was then a lively camp, started a stampede that practically deserted the Fortymile country and made possible the discovery of Bonanza and Eldorado, probably the richest mining creeks in the world.

This is said to be the true account of the first discovery of gold on the Klondike and the first time it has ever appeared in public print.

THERE is today a decidedly better feeling on the part of the residents of Dawson toward the Dominion government, brought about, no doubt, by the many fair promises of relief in the way of additional legislation to be passed next winter for the betterment of affairs in the Yukon district. It is evident from all reports reaching Dawson from Ottawa that the government is beginning to realize that the present lack of fixed mining laws for the Yukon district has had much to do with the side-tracking of not less than \$20,000,000 in the shape of capital which was seeking investment on the various creeks of the district. It is well that the home government should understand and fully appreciate the urgent need existing here for an early reform in the present inefficient and misfit mining rules and regulations, which neither rule nor regulate, but which continue to keep the miners and the district in general in a constant state of uncertainty and apprehension. The great danger lies in the fact that these rules and regulations are constantly subject to changes and modifications, and miners and capitalists can be given no guarantee of permanency and no title to any piece of property. What the Yukon miner now wants, and for which thousands of dollars have already been spent in efforts to secure, is a set of definite mining laws, passed intelligently, to meet the conditions and wants of the people of the Yukon mining fields. With such a set of mining laws, carrying with them the right to acquire property by title, the bars of repression would be removed, and capital, now turned in other channels, would soon find its way here and

greatly increase the prosperity of the country and the probable output of the coming season. Another subject, that promises to arouse much discussion in Ottawa next winter, is the ever-recurring one of the 10 per cent royalty question. Ten per cent is too much to take from the general season's output of each claim over and above the exemption; and it is the consensus of opinion that, while it might not be abolished, the royalty should be materially reduced and collected from the net gold returns only. What the miner and capitalist now want is the power to secure titles and patents on claims similar to those of British Columbia and the United States.

THE 10 per cent royalty collected on the season's output this last summer amounted to \$700,000. Last year the total collected was \$400,000. The output of gold this year is generally estimated and now accepted to have been about \$15,000,000. Last year it was less than \$12,000,000. This year the \$5,000 exemption was put in force on all the claims, and, deducting this from the total output of the season, the amount of royalty collected, \$700,000, would indicate that something like \$3,000,000 of gold dust slipped through and escaped the royalty tax. Of course, the gold necessary for current expenses on the creeks and in Dawson should properly be deducted from the \$1,000,000 referred to, on which no royalty was collected.

A WHOSE impression prevails throughout Canada and the States as to the actual climatic conditions existing in the Yukon Territory, the general opinion being that ice, snow and Arctic cold and darkness prevail here for ten out of every twelve months of the year. No greater mistake could possibly be made, and no greater injustice done to a country where the summers are much more beautiful and delightful than on the Pacific coast, and where the high, dry altitude makes the clear, still cold of the winter days much more bearable than the damp, piercing wind of the Alaska coast, where the temperature remains at and above zero. This is now recognized as the paradise for any and all people suffering from pulmonary troubles or throat ailments of any and every kind. Commencing with the middle of May, and on through to the first of October, gives us four and a half months of summer such as cannot be duplicated in any part of the United States. The rainfall is comparatively light; daylight prevails throughout the twenty-four hours, the heat of midday is never oppressive, and the cooling breezes of midnight always make a blanket acceptable for sleeping under. This is not a land of eternal ice and snows, but, on the contrary, the nature of the loamy soil is so rich and kept damp by an everlasting frozen sub-strata, that vegetation of all kinds grows spontaneously and luxuriantly, so that cultivated ground responds readily and yields bountiful crops of small fruits, vegetables and cereals of all kinds, while the forests abound in wild berries, ferns and flowers in profusion, the latter embracing many beautiful varieties not seen in the States. The almost constant daylight and sunlight during the summer months causes all vegetation to grow twice as rapidly as where the growth is checked by the darkness of night in the States, and with a little more experience in cultivating the ground, it will not be many years until the Yukon Territory will be able to supply the Dawson markets with everything in the way of meats, vegetables, flour, etc., needed for home consumption.

THE best evidence which Dawson can produce to prove her present stability and future permanency is the large number of prominent mercantile firms, whose investments in stocks and buildings range in the millions of dollars, and

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whose extensive and varied trade ranks them on a par with the great wholesale houses of the larger cities of the coast. Among the most prominent of these are the North American Trading and Transportation Company, the Alaska Exploration Company, the Alaska Commercial Company, which three companies have an aggregate of over \$5,000,000 invested in buildings and stocks in Dawson alone. Next come the Ames Mercantile Company, the Parsons Produce Company, the Seattle-Yukon Transportation Company, McLennan, McFeely & Co., the Ladue Company and others, all of which, besides doing a large retail business on the department store plan, also form the base of supplies for the smaller firms and stores, which today number over one hundred. All these large corporations were fully stocked during the summer just closed, and will be in a position to meet any and all demands that may be made on them during the coming winter.

The citizens of Dawson are at present watching with a great deal of interest the construction of the first brick building, which is being erected on Third street between Third and Fourth avenues. Aside from the novelty of this being the first brick building in Dawson, the greater interest lies in the fact that the brick used are all of "home production," being turned out in a brick yard about five miles up the river, near Swede creek. Much adverse criticism to the use of brick in the Yukon country has been indulged in by would-be wise Solomons, who claimed that the extreme cold of the winter would crack the bricks. This, however, it is believed, will not prove the case, and the construction of brick buildings in the colder regions of Canada and the United States are cited by those who believe that brick is the right material to use in this country, for several good and plausible reasons: First, safety from fire, as the brick will protect its walls from a fire in an adjoining building; next, durability, as the brick will not warp or shrink like lumber and logs; and, lastly, economy and the possibility of carrying fire insurance. Mr. O. W. Hobbs and Mr. T. McMullen, the owners of the brickyard, are interested in the construction of the brick building, the dimensions of which will be about 32x82 feet. This yard on the Yukon is turning out some excellent brick, and promises to have its hands full in filling orders. The necessity for fire-proof buildings is forcing many to resort to brick in their structure, and while at first the business of brick-making was a losing proposition, the demand has steadily increased, and it is safe to predict that next year will see brick used for the construction of every new building in Dawson.

The Yukon Council has expended on building of roads and trails during the year about \$70,000. The Dominion government has appropriated for this purpose \$175,000. The road built by contract, headed for Dominion creek, extends from the mouth of Bonanza along and following the ridge of Bonanza's right limit, to the Dome. Here it divides, one branch leading along the Sulphur divide and down Cariboo creek to No. 27 below upper Dominion. The other branch crosses the Dome and leads down the ridge along the left limit of Dominion to No. 6 below upper. The roadbed is carefully graded and from 10 to 15 feet wide. A contract has also been lately let to D. A. Matheson for the construction of a road from the mouth, up Bonanza creek to No. 63 below discovery. This will be extended to the Forks next year. Considerable improvement work has been done on the streets of Dawson in the building of crossings and sidewalks, and a bridge was constructed across the slough. About \$15,000 has been expended on drains and ditches

and \$6,000 on bridges. The development of the country has been greatly retarded by reason of the Dominion government's tardiness in making the requisite appropriations.

The customs receipts in the port of Dawson have reached the large sum of \$231,182.09 from January 1 to September 30, 1899. Collector D. W. Davis estimates additional receipts of \$109,000 before navigation closes on the Yukon river, as the amount of freight en route is prodigious. Following is a table of the monthly receipts, as taken from the collector's books:

January	\$17,782.97
February	2,399.18
March	125.61
April	319.57
May	21.50
June	34,294.56
July	55,667.44
August	58,285.53
September (to 30th)	62,291.72

Total receipts \$231,182.09

The number of steamers arriving in Dawson from down-river points was 73; number of barges, 10; amount of tonnage from steamers, 15,226. The first steamer from lower river points arrived on May 29. The tonnage and arrival of boats from White Horse were not available.

The Yukon Council, which supplies the place of a municipality for Dawson, regulates the receipts and expenditures of all local revenues, while the Dominion revenues are sent to Ottawa and all disbursements for the Yukon ordered from there. The local revenues of Dawson, principally from fines and licenses, for the year ending September 30, 1899, which covers Mr. Ogilvie's administration as commissioner, amounted to \$205,500. The expenditures for the same period were as follows:

Donation to hospital and care of sick	\$50,000
Burial of indigents	3,001
Dawson fire department	16,000
Dawson bridges	6,000
Dawson streets	4,000
Drains and ditches	15,900
Trails, built and under construction	70,000

Total expenditures \$204,400
This showed a balance of \$1,500 on hand September 30.

A CONSERVATIVE estimate of the present value of real estate in Dawson places the total amount at \$20,000,000, and fully \$5,500,000 was expended this last year on new buildings and improvements, some of which will compare favorably with similar wholesale houses in the larger cities of the States. Among these are the new department store building and large warehouses of the Alaska Exploration company, the Alex. McDonald hotel, Dr. Bourke's hospital building, and others already built and in course of construction. The present tone of the real estate market in Dawson is exceedingly firm and healthy, and prices have a steady upward tendency in all classes of property, both residence and business. A large number of industries already have a firm footing in and about Dawson, while many more are contemplated and will, by next spring, materially increase the demand for labor, skilled and otherwise.

The largest nugget ever found in the Yukon Territory was brought to the surface in creek claim No. 34, Eldorado, on August 31, 1899, by Peter Gordt, who, with his partner, Low Swanson, had been given the privilege of doing free summer gleanings, or, in the vernacular of the creeks, were "sniping." The discovery was made in bedrock under five feet of gravel. The nugget is 5 1/8 inches long and 2 1/4 inches thick. It weighs six pounds and six dollars, and represents \$1,158 in gold.

The population of Dawson, according to an official census taken a very short

time ago, is figured up at 4,445. Of these, 3,659 are males and 786 females. Included in the total also are 163 children under the age of 14. The majority of the population is made up of Americans, their number being 3,295. There are 615 Canadians, 200 Englishmen, 99 Scotchmen, 48 Irishmen, and the rest, ranging in numbers from 40 down to 1, represent all nationalities. Dawson has only 1 Chinaman and 19 Japs. From August 26 to September 26 there were 1,736 people left Dawson for Cape Nome and the outside, and during the same period 1,358 people arrived in Dawson.

The vast amount of capital invested and in daily circulation in Dawson has made banking a profitable business, and the Bank of British North America and the Canadian Bank of Commerce, two safe and heavily capitalized institutions, have all they can do to meet exchanges and the financial demands of the district. They also handle a very large percentage of the gold taken from the creeks. During the present year they shipped in bullion over \$5,000,000, most of which was sent to the United States assay office in Seattle.

The revenues of the Yukon Territory which are appropriated by the Dominion government at Ottawa, exclusive of the 10 per cent royalty, amount in round figures to \$1,000 a day. This revenue passes largely through the gold commissioner's office, and is derived from the innumerable fees exacted, principally recording and renewal fees and miners' licenses. At present Dawson derives no local benefit from this large daily revenue, though it is expected that another year will see this money diverted into more local channels.

That quartz ledges in paying quantities exist in the mountains within an area of 50 miles of Dawson is now generally accepted by practical quartz miners and mining engineers to be a settled fact, but whether they will ever be developed to a commercial value is still an open question. The noted "White vein" is said to have been found

and tested, while a discovery of conglomerate is reported from a hill within a few miles from Dawson. The fact remains that old quartz prospectors have been in the field all summer and have come in with many fine specimens and flattering reports of ledges that promise rich results. This is as yet a virgin field for quartz, but the prevailing belief among those qualified to judge is that quartz in paying quantities will yet be struck in this country, and will eventually supplant in importance the placer diggings.

DAWSON is promised an excellent weekly mail service over the ice during the coming winter. The Canadian Development company has been given a year's contract to carry the Canadian and American mail between Dawson and Bennett and Bennett and Dawson. Between Dawson and Selkirk the service will be by dog teams, and between Selkirk and Bennett with horses and sleds across country by the new cut-off. Experienced drivers will be in charge of this mail matter, whose instructions will be to push the matter through without any delay and through every kind of weather. A weekly mail service, leaving Dawson every Wednesday morning, will prove a great boon to everybody here, and will be greatly appreciated by those who were in Dawson last winter, and left for months without mail matter of any kind.

A GLANCE at any map of the Yukon will show that an area of territory, embracing at least 100 miles, is directly tributary to Dawson as a base of supplies and as a point of landing and embarkation. This country takes in the most important mining camps of both the Canadian and Alaska territory, principally the Indian River, Sixtymile and Forty-mile districts, Jack Wade creek, Eagle City, and even down to Circle City. Dawson is the supply point for all these, and the immense warehouses here filled with goods and provisions, will insure for Dawson all the trade of those districts for many years to come.

FACTS ABOUT DAWSON

Banks, 2.
Doctors, 25.
Dentists, 10.
Churches, 4.
Skating rink.
Laundries, 12.
Social clubs, 4.
Assay offices, 5.
Bottling works, 1.
Population, 5,000.
Public hospitals, 2.
Private hospitals, 3.
First-class hotels, 12.
Fraternal societies, 4.
Shipyards and ways, 1.
Express companies, 3.
Number of saw mills, 6.
Number of brick yards, 3.
Manufacturing jewelers, 7.
Number of N. W. M. P., 118.
Athletic and sporting clubs, 2.
Dog teams used in freighting, 75.
Tonnage from St. Michael, 15,000.
Indians in and about Dawson, 150.
Cold and warm storage warehouses, 8.
Number of soldiers, Yukon Field Force, 85.
Distance between Dawson and Skagway, 628 miles.
Amount invested in realty and improvements, \$30,000,000.
Local revenues from liquor and trade licenses and court fines, \$205,000.
Customs receipts, port of Dawson, January 1st to October 1st, 1899, \$231,182.09.
Weekly mails in and out of Dawson by dog and horse teams during the winter and after close of navigation.

Dairies, 5.
Theatres, 3.
Lawyers, 25.
Breweries, 2.
Public hall, 1.
Pack trains, 8.
Gymnasium, 1.
Planing mills, 2.
Machine shops, 3.
Private schools, 3.
Suburban towns, 2.
Steamboat docks, 12.
Suspension bridge, 1.
Up-river steamers, 23.
Vegetable gardens, 12.
Ropaty paid, \$700,000.
Down-river steamers, 41.
Restaurants and cafes, 40.
Miles of improved streets, 5.
Coal mines in the vicinity, 5.
Salvation Army with barracks.
Turkish and plain bath houses, 9.
Number of children of school age, 165.
Electric light plant, supplying the city.
Water systems, supplying the city.
Government and commercial telegraph offices.
Output of mines for last year, \$15,000,000.
Newspapers, daily, 1; semi-weekly, 1; weekly, 3.
Revenue from gold commissioner's office, \$360,000.
Telephone system in operation, covering the whole mining district.
Transportation companies on the upper river, 3; on the lower river, 8.
Fire department, with 2 engines, 2 hose carts, 2 chemicals, and a hook and ladder truck.

THE ALASKA EXPLORATION COMPANY

A. E. CO.

The operations of the Alaska Exploration Co. include merchandising in all its branches, coal mining, gold mining and the transportation of freight and passengers by river and ocean steamships.

Our Mammoth Modern Store

Is the finest in the Yukon Territory and Alaska, and will compare favorably with any store in the more favored centers of the outside. It is so complete and perfect in every detail as to have become popularly known as

DAWSON'S GREAT EMPORIUM

Miners of the Yukon region, from the Lakes to Forty-Mile find it to their advantage to trade with the A. E. Co.

Our fleet of river steamers includes the Linda, Leon, Arnold, Herman, F. K. Gustin, Mary F. Graff, Clara Belle and Cub, and the barges Bear, Fox, Lynx, Seal and Otter.

All New Goods

Our goods are all new, fresh and seasonable; the best that money can procure, and the prices quoted to miners are lower than ever before known on the Yukon.

A. E. CO.

L. R. FULDA, Gen. Mgr.

E. W. BROWN,

MGR. MOSE DEPT.

Front St., bet. 4th and 5th,

DAWSON, Y. T.

THE ALASKA EXPLORATION COMPANY

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Freight and Transportation.



THE river transportation to and from Dawson has assumed immense proportions. Up until last year the A. C. and N. A. T. & T. companies were alone in the possession of steamers plying upon the Yukon. Since then millions of dollars have been invested in palatial steamers and freight barges for the handling of the immense freight traffic and passenger trade going out and coming into Dawson during the summer months. On the up-river points navigation opens and begins about the first of June. The ice jam is held longer at the mouth of the Yukon on account of the resistance offered by the ocean currents, blocking and returning the flow of the ice. Navigation opens from St. Michael to Dawson about the middle of June.

The magnetic influence of the Klondike's rich placers created a great stir in the shipping circles of Seattle. Transportation company after transportation company was organized last year with the view to handling the immense influx of people into the Yukon valley. The American-Spanish war stopped and turned the tide of travel from the Yukon, and was the death knell of a number of companies. Today St. Michael harbor, the boneyard, as they call it, contains many a steamer, the last expiring effort of capitalization of ill-advised companies. The N. A. T. & T. Co., A. C. Co., Alaska Exploration, British-American Line, S-Y-T. E. T. Co., the Columbia Navigation, Trading and Exploring Companies handled the greater part of the passenger and freight traffic. The three largest companies plying on the lower Yukon are the N. A. T. & T., A. C. and A. C. companies, and, in the extent of money invested, the service and the value of the steamers are superior to the other lines. The E. T. Co., a branch of the International Line of New York, entered into the Yukon service with well-matured plans; but the innovations adopted in the construction of the propeller tugs were not suitable for navigation on the swift current of the Yukon.

The amount of capital invested in the various steamboat lines plying on the river (upper and lower Yukon), including the ocean steamers connecting at St. Michael, will reach the enormous sum of \$10,000,000. The profits have been immense. The running expenses are enormous, and require close management on the part of the companies to meet the competition and realize fair profits on the investment of capital.

The best time made from Dawson to Seattle, via Skagway, this summer, was eight days. The trip from Dawson to Seattle, via St. Michael, was made last summer in thirteen days, close connection at St. Michael being made. The building of the White Pass and Yukon railroad has connected Dawson closely with the outside world. Since it is the intention of this railroad to build to Selkirk next year, the time consumed in making the trip between Dawson and Seattle will not be longer than six and one-half days.

The passenger travel has been turned from the down-river route to Skagway, via the lakes, for quick passage. It is a question of future settlement whether the up-river route will ever be able to meet the freight rates of merchandise coming in by way of St. Michael.

The following are the companies operating between Dawson and St. Michael, also connecting the latter port with Dawson, Seattle and San Francisco:

N. A. T. & T. Co.: River steamers—J. J. Healy, John Cudahy, T. C. Power, Portus B. Wear, Charles H. Hamilton, John C. Barr, commanded by the following officers: O. E. LeBallister, J. V. McCarthy, John M. Gilham, Thomas Hoey, W. H. Sims, W. E. Nesbitt. Ocean steamers—Roanoke, Capt. H. P. Weaver, and Alliance, Captain Hardwick. Alaska Exploration company: Yukon river fleet—Leon, Linda, Arnold, Herman, F. K. Guatin, Mary F. Graff, Clara Belle, with six barges. Ocean steamers—Homer and Charles Nelson. Capt. T. N. Hibbard, superintendent of navigation at St. Michael. Officers—President, Isaac Liebes, of Liebes & Co., San Francisco; superintendent and resident manager, L. R. Fulda.

Alaska Commercial company: River fleet—Hannah, Bessie, Sarah, Alice, Margaret, Leah, Louise; tug boats Bella, Yukon; pilot steamer Victoria, Yukon flats; steel side-wheeler, Sadie, running between St. Michael and Cape Nome. Ocean steamers—St. Paul, Portland and Bertha. Officers of the company—Louis Gierstel, president; Louis Sloss, general manager; Louis Greenebaum, secretary; James M. Wilson, superintendent Yukon division; Capt. J. E. Hansen, assistant superintendent; William A. Herwin, agent at Dawson.

The Empire Transportation company, known as The Empire Line, owned and controlled by the International Navigation company, American Line (Atlantic ocean). Yukon river fleet—Seattle, Tacoma, Victoria, St. Michael, Dawson, Munook, Tanana, Yukon, and Empire. Ocean steamers—Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Conemaugh, at present employed as transports by the U. S. government. Officers—C. A. Griscom, president, Philadelphia, Penn.; George H. Higbee, general manager, and G. D. Fahnestock, general agent, Seattle, Wash.; Yemans & Chisholm, agents, Dawson, Y. T. Principal office, 607 First avenue, Seattle, Wash.

The British-American line: River steamers—Robert Kerr and Milwaukee. Ocean steamers—Garonne and Elihu Thompson. Officers—Frank Waterhouse, president; C. H. Norris, superintendent, Yukon river; W. H. Pritchard, auditor; J. C. Hayden, assistant auditor.

Standard Oil company: Steamer Oil City, for the transportation of coal oil and machine oil. M. D. Rainbow, agent, Dawson.

Seattle-Yukon Transportation company: Yukon fleet—Seattle Nos. 1 and 3, and barge Seattle No. 2. Directors—W. H. Shepherd, London; W. D. Wood, president and manager, Yukon river; A. L. Hawley, vice-president and manager, Seattle; E. G. Shorrock, auditor; and F. G. Wood; H. TeRoller, resident manager, Dawson, Y. T. Head offices, 90-92 Columbia street, Seattle, Wash.

Columbia Navigation company: Yukon steamers—Monarch and Sovereign. Ocean steamer—Laurada. Frank J. Kinghorn is agent at Dawson, with office on the Yukon dock, for the British-American and Columbia Navigation company lines. Officer—J. E. Chibberg, manager, Seattle.

Blue Star line: Steamer Pilgrim.

Alaska Meat company: Steamer—Lot-ta Talbot.

The three principal transportation companies operating on the up-river points are the Canadian Development Co., Ltd., the Bennett Lake and Klondike Navigation Company, Ltd., and the Yukon Flyer Line. Other steamers, owned by local capital and individual owners are: The W. K. Merwin, owned

by Dr. P. J. B. LeBlanc, T. McFarlane, Alex. McDonald and others; Gold Star, George Romillard; Willie Irving, Griffith, Douglas, Dwyer, Willett & Company; Joseph Clonsett, E. A. Morek; Sybil, W. S. Reed; W. S. Stratton, owned by Alex. McDonald, chartered by the government telegraph line; Florence S., owned by Captain Fairburn; and W. S. Stratton, owned by Alex. McDonald, chartered by the government telegraph line.

The Canadian Development company: Steamers—Victorian, Columbian, Canadian, Anglian, and Joseph Clonsett and Sybil under charter. On lakes—Steamers Bailey, Australian, Tasmanian and Zealandian; shipyard and ways at West Dawson. Officers—H. Maitland Kersey, managing director; Capt. J. A. Ritchie, general superintendent; W. Mead, freight and ticket agent, Dawson. Head office, Victoria; agent, H. B. McEwan.

The Yukon Flyer line, Nels Peterson & Co., owners; Phil Sheridan, managing director. Steamers—Bonanza King and Eldorado. On lake—Clifford Sifton. W. B. Spencer, traffic manager; C. J. Reilly, general passenger and freight agent; E. Thompson, auditor.

The Bennett Lake and Klondike Navigation company, Ltd.: Steamers—Ora and Flora, captains Waud and Martineau. Lake steamers—Nora and Olive May. Officers—H. C. Flockton, general manager; E. E. Sampson, agent, Dawson.

The Trading and Exploring company, Ltd.: Steamer—Yukoner, formerly on down-river route; Clara, tugboat, Dawson; owners, Advocate F. de Journal & Co.

Large Investors in Properties.

Concentration of capital is now recognized as the only practical method for the better and more rapid development of the many mineral interests of this Yukon district; and to this end English, French, German and American money is now filling the vaults of the banks of Dawson, and checked out daily for cash mining investments. Among the most prominent and substantial of these moneyed institutions now in Dawson is the London Klondike Development Syndicate, Ltd., with a cash working capital of \$255,000. Its directors, as the name implies, are English subjects, being West Australian and South African capitalists of known repute and financial standing, whose sound judgment is based on practical experience. The head and front of the London Klondike Development Syndicate, Ltd., is Mr. William Joel, the active and energetic manager of the concern, who has been a prominent and well-known figure in mining matters in the Klondike for over two years, and through whose untiring efforts in and out of season the syndicate today owns some of the richest mining properties in the Yukon district. Mr. Joel has made place mining a study and by practical experience has mastered the peculiar conditions that prevail in the mineral belt of this section of the country. After nearly two years of the hardest kind of work, such as a prospector and miner alone can appreciate, and after securing control of a number of very valuable mines and concessions, Mr. Joel realized the fact that it would take capital to develop the many interests he had in hand. Accordingly he left Dawson last January, traveling over the ice to Skagway en route to London, and in five weeks from the date he landed in the British capital he had secured the necessary capital to organize the London Klondike Development Syndicate, Ltd. This work he accomplished last May and immediately returned to Dawson to secure as many more mining

properties as, in his judgment, would prove profitable to the syndicate. He has been indefatigable in his researches, traveling up and down the various creeks, in all kinds of weather, day and night, in search of good claims, until today, it is safe to say, the London Klondike Development Syndicate, Ltd., is the owner of a lot of the best claims on the richest creeks of this district, all of which have materially increased the assets of the syndicate, and to which Mr. Joel is continually adding.

The many properties so far secured by Mr. Joel include not only placer claims, but hydraulic and dredging propositions, conglomerate quartz fields and coal lands. Among the well known creeks on which he has secured claims are Bonanza, Eldorado, Skookum, Gold Hill, Dominion and others. Mr. Joel expects to again go out over the ice early this coming winter, when he will buy the necessary machinery for working the several holdings of the syndicate this winter and next spring, and from all indications he expects to take out gold enough from two of his placer claims to enable him to pay a substantial dividend next spring. Considering that the syndicate has only been in existence since last May, the results so far make a very gratifying showing and reflect the greatest credit on the management and executive ability of Mr. Joel. Among the many promising placer claims belonging to the syndicate, two adjoin claims on which \$100 to the pan has been struck, while another claim of the syndicate's shows \$4.50 to the pan. At present Mr. Joel is hard at work prospecting a five-mile dredging lease, with a view to developing the property, and results so far are exceedingly satisfactory.

The syndicate has in view the floating of subsidiary companies, with a view to providing working capital for the development of the vast holdings of the syndicate. Mr. Joel also has secured a concession on a three-mile hydraulic proposition, on which considerable money has already been expended for development purposes.

The latest accession to the syndicate's list of valuable properties is a series of quartz claims in the recent strike made of conglomerate, within three miles from Dawson and directly on the Yukon river. The importance of this lies in the fact that stamp mills can be delivered from the deck of the steamer direct on the property. The ledge is enormous, and numerous assays made show as high as \$25 to the ton. This property alone involves millions of dollars.

The syndicate also is the owner of several hundred acres of valuable coal lands on the Yukon, and it is Mr. Joel's intention to send for a number of experienced Cornish miners to develop the property.

Firm Supporters of Sulphur.

J. G. Hunter and F. A. Moore own No. 12 above, Sulphur. In their new shaft sunk late last winter on the left limit 4,000 buckets of pay gravel yielded \$5,000. This stirred up the men on the claim and from that time on the pay gravel was hoisted rapidly to the surface and conveyed by cars to the sluice boxes located on the creek bed. On the right limit the pay gravel was not as extensive, the run of gold being much finer than that found in the left limit. The development work on the left limit consists of a piece of ground worked out 48 feet across the creek bed and 19 feet wide. The paystreak is two feet deep, containing coarse gold and good-sized nuggets. Mr. Hunter was outside during the fall of last year, and upon his return sank the shaft on the left limit and uncovered a paystreak they had not bargained upon. Bedrock was reached at a depth of 40 feet. The value of the claim has been more than quadrupled by this new discovery.

Advanced Methods in Mining Operations.



WHEN the North American Transportation and Trading Company, one of the largest companies in Alaska and Yukon Territory, engaged in the mercantile, transportation and mining business, was organized in 1892. Capt. John J. Healy was elected the general manager, which position he continues to hold. This company has invested in steamers and transportation facilities over a million of capital. Prior to 1892 Capt. John J. Healy was in partnership with the late Edgar Wilson, and owned a trading post and store at Dyea, Alaska. Situated at the gate through which the ingoing and returning band of Yukon pioneers annually passed, he soon learned about the placer wealth of the Yukon valley, and saw before him a chance of his lifetime for the organization of a mercantile and mining company. He arose to the occasion and went to Chicago in the fall of 1891 for that purpose. There he presented his convictions and plans to his present associates, and the company was organized that winter. In the summer of 1892 he steamed up the Yukon river in the company's first steamer, the Portus B. Weare, and established the first post at Fort Cudahy, at the mouth of Fortymile river. At that time it took pluck, perseverance and staying qualities to establish a post, but Captain Healy was not wanting in these sterling qualities which make successful pioneers on the frontier. At that time the A. C. company had no competitor in the transportation and trading business throughout the interior of the Yukon valley, and were the dictators in the ruling prices for the entire outfitting of a band of pioneer miners. His associates were Messrs. Michael and John Cudahy, Charles A. and Portus B. Weare, the wealthy packers of Chicago. The company was organized in 1892 under its present firm name.

Captain Healy was formerly heavily interested in the cattle and mining interests in the vicinity of Benton, Montana. He founded and managed the Benton Record, a progressive and enterprising daily paper, employing the best journalists that could be secured in Chicago to edit the different departments of the paper, descriptive of the mining, cattle and agricultural interests of Montana.

The first post was established at Fort Cudahy at the mouth of Fortymile river, Yukon Territory, in 1892. From this initial station the company has been branching out, growing gradually but steadily, until it is one of the most important companies in the Yukon valley and upon the Western coast of Alaska. Following are the trading posts and immense establishments of this firm: Healy, St. Michael Island, Alaska; Cape Nome, on Western coast of Alaska, 120 miles northwest of St. Michael; Rampart City, Weare, Fort Yukon, Circle City and Eagle City—all in Alaska. In the Yukon Territory: Fort Cudahy, Fortymile and Dawson. The officers are: Michael Cudahy, president; John J. Healy, general manager; Charles A. Weare, treasurer; Ulrich King, Secretary; A. N. Gray, traffic manager; R. S. Buchanan, auditor. The Pacific coast offices are at 8 California street, San Francisco Cal.; Yesler Way and Occidental avenue, Seattle, Wash.; the main office being 729 Rookery building, Chicago, Illinois.

Besides the company's rapid advancement in the mercantile and transportation fields, the management has not lost sight of the rich placer resources of the Yukon valley. The company has invested over \$1,500,000 in mining properties situated in the Yukon Territory and Alaska. It holds the largest mining interests on the Yukon river and its tributaries, no other company approaching near it in the amount and value of its various mining interests. Capt. John J. Healy delights in great mining undertakings. It was due to his fertile brain that the pumps and gravel elevators are now used in this district. In 1898, realizing that the various creeks had not sufficient fall and volume of water for successful placer and hydraulic mining without the aid of machinery, he set about, while in Chicago, to purchase large boilers, engines and pumps to handle the drain water for sluicing purposes, and also secured gravel elevators, raising gravel and water to the sluice boxes set at the required height and grade to successfully sluice and handle the gold bearing gravel. The machinery was set up this spring upon his rich properties located on Upper Bonanza and upon 23, and 21 Eldorado. These pumps were successful in the extensive development of the property, so far as the volume of water was able to handle the gravel extracted. But the operations have shown to Captain Healy that the plant is not adapted to the small sluice head of water available during the summer months. The pumps and elevators raised 60 per cent. of water and 40 per cent. of gravel, but on account of the lack of water the gravel is not handled in sufficient quantities to meet the output of the pumps and elevators. As Captain Healy expressed it, the machinery introduced was in the nature of experimental development work, and it needed last summer's experience in order to clearly study out the best system needed for the cheap handling of placer claims in the Yukon. It is his intention to take upon advanced system now proven in other mining centers, and the most improved and successful method for placer and hydraulic mining. He is now thoroughly satisfied that the use of steam shovels, operated upon a trackway which enables the operators to handle an immense amount of gravel in a season, and at the same time by cranes transfer the immense buckets of gravel to the receptacle leading to elevators which transfer the gravel to the sluice boxes by hydraulic methods, is the best system adaptable to the country. He believes that in the future the power necessary for a grand scale of operating the company's group of mines will be found in the adaptation of electric power generated at a central station upon the Yukon. At this central or motor power station, coal for fuel will be found to be cheaper than wood at the present and future prices. Wires will transmit the power to the several steam shovel stations upon the creeks. This central idea he has advocated and reported to his company in Chicago, and after its feasibility has been carefully looked into and demonstrated by experts in the electrical line, it is more than likely that this advanced system will be adopted in the future by the company. Captain Healy has purchased for the company some of the best paying mines in the district, and it is now his one ambition to work those properties by the use of machinery best adapted to cut down the excessive expenditures now obtaining in the system of working the placers. The present system, introduced by him, is capable of draining all water flowing on the bedrock, and if the volume of water had been sufficiently large, his plant would have handled the gravel at the required standard of extensive development work. On No. 17 the sur-

face muck was ground-sluced last year for the sluicing of the pay gravel the past season. On No. 27 considerable drifting was done last winter to exploit and determine the value of the pay-streak. A large strip of ground was also ground-sluced last summer and fall. This year, by the aid of the pumps and elevators, a strip of ground 30x500 feet was worked to bedrock. The creek bed was found to be shallow next to the left limit, so that the operations did not require the removal of so much top dirt as was found in other parts of the creek bed. The centrifugal pumps used throw a six-inch stream into the sluice boxes, raised from the sump at the terminus of the drain ditch. A tunnel on No. 27 has been extended from the open cut 137 feet in width across the creek bed to the right limit the entire length of the drift, located in rich pay dirt. The end of the drift is still 351 feet distant from the right limit, and this drift cuts through the center of virgin or unworked ground. The pay gravel runs from two to four feet in depth, having bunches of gravel remarkably rich in their deposits of gold dust. The four thawers, furnished with steam by 50-horse-power boilers, expedited the summer work. On Nos. 28 and 29 the work undertaken has been in the nature of development work and ground sluicing, preparatory for next season's extensive operations. A strip of ground 60x500 feet has had the surface muck removed to the pay gravel, so that this claim will be ready for the shoveling of gravel into sluice boxes next season. On 30A and 31 above, very little development work has been done, although the prospect holes sunk have uncovered and located the paystreak. On Nos. 36 and 36A above an open cut 210x225 feet has been run, exposing the pay gravel the entire extent, the greater part of the paystreak exposed having been extracted off the bedrock. To give some idea of the output of these claims, the cleanups on No. 36 for the last month ran from \$7,000 to \$19,000 for the 24-hours' work of the sluice boxes. Several days the cleanups amounted to from \$15,000 to \$30,000 per day. The output of the three claims upon Upper Bonanza, embracing a comparatively small strip of the claims paystreak, amounted to an output of \$300,000. Next year the claims in this section will have reached that stage of development work that, with the improved methods supplied, the output will reach a conservative estimate of \$1,000,000. On No. 39 the coming winter the steam thawers will thaw the paystreak, and immense dumps will be extracted for next spring's cleanup. On Nos. 20, 20A and 21 above, extensive development work will be carried on. For the past two years Nos. 20 and 21 Eldorado have been worked both summer and winter. This year, with the aid of pumping machinery, a large cut has been extended up and down the claims, and the output for the season places these claims among the richest producers on the creek. On Hunker, last winter's development work was carried on extensively upon 23A, 40 and 41 below Hunker. On six Sulphur creek claims owned by the company the development work will not be overlooked during the coming winter, as the intention of the company is to follow up the active work now under way and carried on by Alex. McDonald and the Klondike Development Company. William Russell has had the active management of the claims on Upper Bonanza, Capt. T. W. M. Draper holding the position of general superintendent and manager of the company's various mining interests. The latter re-

turned this fall to Chicago to make his annual report to the company. Mr. Russell will remain here and carry on the development work the coming year. Capt. John J. Healy has no intention of leaving Dawson this winter. He will personally superintend and look after the company's mercantile and mining interests and place them in such shape that he can leave them with safety and go to Cape Nome next spring. His visit in the Cape Nome mining district the past summer has convinced him that its future can hardly be overestimated. He saw enough development work to convince him that the Cape Nome country will develop into a great mining camp. He does not regard this new camp as a rival which will materially affect the advancement of Dawson and its outlying mining districts. He has as great a faith in this country as he ever had, and believes that the Ottawa government in time will see the fallacy of their present mining laws and will make a change, looking to the encouragement of foreign and American investments of large capital. He has also great faith in the Fortymile mining district, and has made several large investments on Napoleon creek, which development work has shown this creek to possess a heavy run of coarse nuggets and gold dust. In other words, he believes that there will be several Jack Wade creeks discovered this winter, which will materially advance the business interests of Dawson. His company will continue their policy for the enlargement of their business interests, than whom there is none better capable than Captain Healy to take advantage of the chances daily arising for the profitable investment of large capital. As Dawson has maintained her position as the main transportation center of the territory, so she will continue to advance and reach out for all the outfitting business of the several growing camps situated at the further boundaries.

Capt. J. J. Healy is no plunger in the sense of a Wall-street operator. He carefully looks over the field, takes time in maturing his well-laid claims, and then goes ahead in the carrying out of his advanced ideas in the development of the undertaking taken in hand in the mining and merchandising lines.

Following is the complete list of the company's claims in Yukon Territory:

No. Claim.	Creek.	No. Claim.	Creek.
60 below dis Bonanza.		1 below dis Dominion.	
62 "		13 "	
61 "		8A any lav	
54 "		beh op 14-15	
53 "		beh op 14	
70 "		23A bel dis Hunker.	
5 above.		40 "	
7 "		41 "	
17 "		8 below dis Sulphur.	
27 "		20A "	
28 "		21 "	
29 "		34 "	
30A "		35 "	
31 "		100 "	
36 "		101 "	
36A "		1 bench 11 "	
30 "		below 11 "	
32 "		2 "	
20 "	Eldorado.	22 "	Fortymile.
30A "		Locky "	
21 "		13 "	Quartz.
41 "		14 "	

Claims in Alaska.			
No. Claim.	Creek.	No. Claim.	Creek.
1 below dis Miller.		30 "	Miller.
2 "		31 "	
3 "		32 "	
4 "		33 "	
5 "		34 "	
6 "		35 "	
7 "		36 "	
8 "		37 "	
9 "		38 "	
10 "		39 "	
11 "		40 "	
12 "		41 "	
13 "		42 "	
14 "		43 "	
15 "		44 "	
16 "		45 "	
17 "		46 "	
18 "		47 "	
19 "		48 "	
20 "		49 "	
21 "		50 "	

Coal Mines: Cliff creek. Coal creek. Twelve-mile creek.
Quartz: Ethel Lode. Hunker. Parent. Klondike Tunnel. Anderson. Four-Leaves. Germania. Gaines Lode. Klondike Grant. London Lode.



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Timber Resources.



HE lands and timber of Yukon Territory are under the protection or supervision of a department or agent of the government—be, of course, being instructed in his duties by the laws. The valleys and low lands of the territory are generally well wooded with a serviceable variety of spruce. The timber does not grow to great height nor girth, nor are the forests at any place along the river of a density to be compared to those of the State of Washington. But, scattered over a vast area, there is plenty of timber, and of a quality to meet all reasonable demands. The cutting of the timber is regulated by a license system that forbids any one but those holding such commissions cutting for sale. A large and perhaps the best part of the timber consumed in Dawson is floated through booms down the Klondike river.

There are six sawmills in and about Dawson, having a combined capacity of about 100,000 feet of lumber per day. Their average cut, however, is not more than 60,000 feet, the output being limited by the supply of timber. This output has been, and is still being turned into houses, sluice-boxes, and such useful things just as rapidly as it comes away from the saw. In fact no stick of wood in the country has ever been given a chance to show the best it was capable of. There is no such thing as seasoned lumber. It is snatched away from the mill and put into service almost as wet, most of it, as it came out of the river. Occasionally the best cuts from picked logs are allowed to lie out in the weather for a few days. They are then labeled as "seasoned lumber," and away they go. Out of this material some very elegant articles in wood, as, for instance, fancy counters and roller-top desks are manufactured, such as would pass muster in company with the best of their kind anywhere.

The season for the mills extends from the first of June to the last of September—four months. A season of five months places the extreme limit. After that the logs are frozen, the capacity of the mill is, in consequence, cut to one-half, and the expense is such as to make the business unprofitable. Several attempts have been made to run mills in the winter, but they have resulted always in failure.

The license fee for cutting timber over a square mile of land is \$250. It is a rarity where a mile of land will supply a mill of a capacity of 25,000 feet for the season. The experience of such mill owners is that an average of three miles is necessary.

The ready timber along the banks of the river is already cut away, and the cruiser and lumberman is compelled to drag his products for ever-increasing distances. It is estimated that there are about 120 men engaged in the lumber business, counting those engaged in the whole business from the time the timber is located in the woods until it is ready to deliver to the builder or manufacturer.

Lumber is now selling at \$100 per 1,000 rough, and \$150 surfaced. Logs average \$45 per 1,000. During the past summer the price dropped to \$60 for rough, and \$90 for surfaced. Mill owners are confident that that was the lowest stage the lumber market will ever reach in Dawson. The capital invested in the industry will foot up about a quarter of a million.

The hillsides along the creeks, where

mining has been carried on for any considerable time, are well stripped of everything in the form of wood, and miners are forced to go long distances for fuel for the "burning" process, as the thawing of the ground is called. The introduction of steam thawers and other improved methods will greatly reduce the consumption of wood in the future. The miner's license gives the right to cut all the wood necessary for working the mines.

In Search of Quartz Properties.

The H. Eldorado Reef Syndicate, Ltd., of London, Eng., was lately incorporated under the Canadian charter, with George Osborn Hayne as resident manager in Dawson, Y. T.

The object of this company is to prospect and exploit the various ledges or leads for paying quartz, and Mr. Hayne has been instructed to center all his attention on quartz properties and not take up placer claims. It is a large corporation, among the stockholders being F. R. A. Lubbock, of the firm of Virtue, Lubbock & Co., office No. 43 Threadneedle street, London, and Wilson Smith and E. L. Bond, of Montreal; also Mr. Sedwick, of the Lloyds shipping firm. Mr. Hayne has sunk several shafts 40 feet in depth, and acquired property situated on the ridge between Gay gulch and Eldorado, about 3,000 feet from the creek bed at No. 38 Eldorado. The company owns four claims and two fractions, each claim being 1,500x1,500 feet, and the fractions 586x1,500 and 343x1,500 feet, respectively. They have also quartz locations, the continuation of the ledge numbering 5, 6, 7, 8 and 8A along the lead. The ledge trends northeast and southwest, the direction of all the large ledges in British Columbia, Alaska and the mother lode of California. Crockings are bull quartz, of the quartzite variety, brittle and flinty. The ledge dips 30 degrees, the crockings showing a width on the surface of 10 feet. The bottom of the shaft shows the ledge four feet in width, the nature of the quartz changing into sulphurets containing galena and iron pyrites. The assays show a fair percentage of gold and silver. Mr. Hayne will recommend that the company extend a tunnel 1,200 feet in length from Gay gulch, tapping the ledge at 1,000 feet in depth. This will be the cheapest way to work the property, and also exploit the ledge in depth, and determine whether its value increases in distance from the surface. The company also owns five miles of a hydraulic concession of the left limit of Quartz, starting from the mouth of the creek. The ground has been partially prospected. If the prospects justify the outlay of capital, Mr. Hayne will have shipped a large hydraulic plant, consisting of pumps and elevators, to handle the gravel on a large scale. There is not sufficient fall along the creek bed to admit of hydraulic mining without the help of machinery. Mr. Osborn is a graduate of the Royal Military Academy of Kingston, Canada, and is well connected with the financial circles in Ottawa and London. He will visit London and make his annual report during the fore part of the winter.

ADVERTISE IN "THE NEWS."

All the leading papers of the United States, Canada and London quote freely from the columns of the Dawson DAILY and WEEKLY NEWS. Both papers circulate extensively not only in Dawson and on the creeks, but throughout the universe. That is why it is a valuable advertising medium.

I SPEAK BUT FOR MYSELF.

BY CAPT. JACK CRAWFORD.

I cannot speak for other men,
I only know what time has taught;
For thirty years in hill and glen
I've fought and toiled, I've toiled and
fought.
I've been a wild stamper, too;
An hundred times I've walked away
From what my better judgment knew
Would be a fortune did I stay.

And after braving ten times more
Than ever was my lot to share,
Than ever crossed my trail before
In civil war or Indian lair;
I say, and say it so sincere,
That none will dare express a doubt—
I'm here to stay, and I am here
To get the stuff and take it out.

Will I succeed—God only knows;
I dare do all that man can do,
And while hope's star still brightly
glows,
This be my motto, "die or do."
For this I know and here proclaim,
That nowhere on this earthly sphere
Has ever yet been found the same
Amount of wealth as comes from here.

And so I say to comrades, mine,
Be not discouraged—work, just work,
And let your star of hope so shine
That it may kill the grumbling shirk.
There's no such word as fail for you,
If this good motto you will take—
Be just and fearless, and be true,
And put your foot on every snake.
Dawson, Y. T., Sept. 33, 1899.

A. E. Company's Mining Interests.

This company has not been as prominently before the public as a mining company, by reason of the fact that it has not been their policy to boom. They have many claims and interests, both in the Yukon Territory and Alaska. The company have a number of men opening up and prospecting many of their claims—placer, quartz and coal. Their operations are not confined to any particular district, though they have many interests in the Klondike and immediate vicinity, both Canadian and American territory. The company works in a quiet and systematic way. They may prospect a hundred claims, and little said of it; but when they meet encouragement—presto! a force of labor and money is immediately employed in development. Many of the largest and richest mines of various lands are owned and operated by some one of the group of companies of which the Alaska Exploration Company is only one, for the immense interests of the parent companies render it necessary to segregate their interests into divisions.

They were among the very first in the Cape Nome district, where they have many interests and employ a large force of men on their mining claims. They had several exploring parties prospecting in that and the Golovin bay district for two years, and it was from the favorable reports of one or more of these parties that the A. E. Company established stations there, they being the first to arrive there with a steamer loaded with supplies. They also erected the first warehouse and store.

The A. E. Company is a branch of and represents the interests of the Alaska Goldfields, Ltd., of London, Eng., having their offices at No. 5 Angel Court, Throgmorton street, London, Eng., having mining interests in every part of the world and representing practically unlimited capital. It is needless to say that, as the occasion calls for it, the A. E. Co. will respond to any demand for the investment of any amount of capital in mining enterprise that may be justified by surrounding conditions.

The Dawson DAILY NEWS office is prepared to print anything from a visiting card to a three-sheet poster.

A Rich Townsite and Mining Company.

The Joseph Ladue Gold Mining and Development company of Yukon is interested in the Harper & Ladue townsite of Dawson, in the sawmill and mercantile business, and has various mining interests on the creeks. It also owns the Morgan City, which the government pressed into service to transport troops from San Francisco to Manila. This boat was purchased to run between Seattle and St. Michael.

Mr. E. F. Botsford, the resident manager and treasurer, in his annual report to January 1, 1899, states the earnings at Dawson amounted to \$186,284.06; on transportation, \$54,224.92; making a total of \$240,508.98. The expenditures amounted to \$79,079.81, leaving a net profit for the year amounting to \$161,409.17. On August 20, 1897, Harper & Ladue transferred to Joseph Ladue Mining and Development company on the Yukon, their sawmill, located at the corner of First avenue and Sixth street, in a block of six lots, timber berths, 80 lots in the townsite of Dawson; also placer claims on Hunker and Gold Bottom creeks, together with their interests in the Marguerite quartz claim. S. O. Morford was in charge of Harper & Ladue's business until the representatives of the company arrived here in the summer of 1898. The company purchased additional property from the townsite and built the store and two-story warehouse 60x160, now occupied by the mercantile department of the company, and have erected for rental a two-story store building, corner of Second avenue and Sixth street; also a two-story building on Second avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets, known as the Dawson Private Hospital. On Second avenue they own the Gold City hotel building and a two-story log building.

Their two 15-horse power boiler and engines for the 10-stamp quartz mill have arrived, and will be set up this winter, as well as several thawing machines which will be used on their placer claims originally acquired. The sawmill is equipped with a full line of planers, edger, cutoff, matcher and circular saws. W. H. B. Lyons is in charge of the sawmill. The store is under the management of Dr. T. B. Cook and carries a full line of clothing, provisions and hardware. The warehouse is packed to the roof with groceries, strictly fresh and first-class. Outfits cached free of charge until called for. E. F. Botsford is managing director and treasurer and spends his summer months in Dawson and the winter at his home office, 71 Broadway, New York City, supervising the purchase of goods from all parts of the states. It is the intention of the company to continue building on their improved property and acquire all the good mining interests possible. The steamer Morgan City, capacity 3,000 tons, which was intended to run between Seattle and St. Michael, was chartered by the government as a transport in June, 1898, and is now on her return trip to Manila in the government service. The company has paid two dividends—the last one 6 percent—and is in a flourishing condition.

Telegraph Line to Dawson.

Dawson is now connected by wire, and, with its characteristic enterprise, the DAILY NEWS publishes exclusively the first telegraphic press dispatches from the outside. So great was the demand for papers that several editions had to be printed in order to supply those desirous of learning, at the earliest possible moment, the happenings of the world, and at the same time showing their appreciation of the News' latest stroke of enterprise.

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and
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Fresh and a Superior
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The Only Canadian Firm Trading in the Yukon

PREPARED TO SUPPLY THE TRADE AND MINERS WITH

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Placer Mining in the Klondike.

By T. A. R. PURCHAS.



THE subject with which this article is intended to deal is one which cannot be approached without some natural feeling of hesitation. When it is remembered how much has been said and written during the past two years concerning the marvelous wealth of the country and the hardships endured by those who are struggling to obtain a share of it, one is quite justified in assuming that those who are not personally acquainted with the actual condition of affairs must have found it very difficult to arrive at any definite conclusions. Sensational stories of fabulously rich discoveries, resulting in enormous fortunes for the lucky individuals who made them, have frequently been published simultaneously with accounts of personal sufferings sufficiently harrowing to deter any but the most venturesome or foolhardy from risking their lives in pursuit of gold, which could only be secured at such a sacrifice. Bearing all this in mind, it is hardly reasonable to expect that the Klondike has yet received that serious consideration which it undoubtedly deserves.

The impressions of the country and its prospects, which are given here, are the result of a visit extending over the greater part of the recent summer season, during which the writer gathered his information from a general examination of the field and a careful inquiry into the conditions surrounding the industry which has so recently sprung into existence. To secure some measure of comprehensiveness without giving rise to confusion in presenting the many phases of a somewhat complicated subject, it will be better to deal with the points involved under a series of separate headings, giving the conclusions arrived at after disposing of the details.

CLIMATE.

The Klondike winter has passed into a by-word. It is, therefore, doubtful if it will be easy, at this stage, to induce the belief that it is not, in reality, so terrible as it has been painted. Despite its acknowledged severity—in the matter of thermometer readings—it is not regarded with a terror by those who are living in the country and who are now making preparations for its advent. As a matter of fact, it is rather welcomed as a season of special mining activity and easier and cheaper transport from Dawson to the various outlying creeks. The hard, frozen trails during winter afford facilities which have hitherto been lacking during the summer months, and every advantage is taken of this. Whilst the winter has been made to appear much worse than the facts will justify, the summer has received no more than a passing mention. Exaggeration is the very breath of life in the Yukon, but it would be almost impossible to exaggerate or overpraise the charms of the summer climate in this far north region. Fine, bright weather may be expected from May until September, and for nearly two and one-half months there is almost continuous daylight. This has the effect of considerably lengthening the period available for summer sluicing, and is therefore an important working factor. Under this head it may be remarked that the tales of clouds of mosquitoes, which rendered life a burden during summer, must be relegated to the already long list of untruths. If they did exist, only a few stragglers now remain within the working area, and in Dawson itself they are almost unknown.

FACILITIES OF ACCESS.

With the completion of the White Pass and Yukon railway from Skagway to Lake Bennett, and the introduction of fast and commodious steamers upon the waters connecting the latter place with Dawson, the journey from London can be performed with comfort in 24 days during the season of open navigation.

DAWSON AS A DISTRIBUTING POINT.

Dawson is so situated that it is unquestionably destined to remain the terminus and depot for the Klondike. Other centers may spring up at different points upon the creeks, as, for instance, the village of Grand Forks, at the junction of Eldorado and Bonanza, but the position of Dawson as a center to which all supplies must come, and whence they will be distributed, is not likely to be disputed.

NATURE OF GOLD DEPOSITS.

There is a strong belief prevalent locally that rich quartz veins must exist in the vicinity of the placer deposits, and much activity in prospecting for them is taking place. The search for the mythical "mother lode" is also carried on industriously, but it does not appear that there have yet been any discoveries of sufficient importance to warrant special mention. It may therefore be said that at present the Klondike is entirely a placer, or alluvial field. The gold occurs in gravel beds which lie at varying elevations from the bottom of the valleys or creeks—below the level of the present water flow—to the terraces or benches on the slopes of the hills flanking the creeks. These benches are not infrequently in tiers, rising one above another, and it is no uncommon sight to see gold being won concurrently from the creek below, and from the bench or benches, rising to a height of some hundreds of feet above the bottom of the valley. The richness of these deposits varies between wide limits of value; some creeks are richer than others, and individual claims, or small groups of them, upon any given creek where much work has been done, have been proved to be richer than the remainder. The gold generally inclines to the coarse and nuggety variety, rather than to the fine, and while no very heavy nuggets have yet been found (the heaviest was quite recently discovered on Eldorado, and weighed over 70 ounces), smaller ones, ranging between one and three or four ounces, are comparatively common. The creeks on which the greatest amount of work has been and is being done are Eldorado, Bonanza, Hunker, Dominion, Sulphur and Gold Run. These again have their tributaries, many of which are steadily increasing in importance. The benches which are most extensively worked are situated upon Gold Hill and Adams hill, on Bonanza creek, French hill, on Eldorado, and the hills on parts of Hunker, Dominion and Quartz creeks. Tributaries of the creeks mentioned are also becoming gold-producers from their benches, but it is not possible within the limits of the present article to do more than indicate generally the points of the greatest activity. Neither is it possible here to discuss any of the theories advanced for the occurrence of the gold in the creeks and benches. Interesting as such a study may be, it must suffice to say that the gold is there, however and whenever it may have been placed there, and all present evidences tend to show that the extent of the deposits is far greater than was originally imagined.

SYSTEMS OF WORKING.

The present year may be regarded as marking an epoch in mining here. Prior to this year no system, worthy of the name, had been pursued in working the gravels. The output was confined almost entirely to what was sluiced in the spring from dumps taken out during the winter, when the individual miner or the layman (a tributary of a section of a claim from the owner for a percentage of the gold won) would be free from the inroad of water, with which he was unable to cope. He would sink his shafts down to bedrock by the laborious and costly process of building fires in the holes to thaw out the frozen ground. The past summer season has seen sluicing carried on almost continuously, and the addition to the annual output from this source must be considerable. The character of the work now being done on this field depends upon the nature of the ground under treatment. In all the creek valleys the pay gravel is overlaid by a stratum of top soil, which is appropriately termed "muck" by the miners. This muck is composed almost entirely of decayed moss and vegetable matter, which forms (when the frost has been thawed out) a soft, black mud. It varies in depth, on different creeks, from 3 or 4 feet up to 35 or 40 feet. Where it is sufficiently shallow, and the necessary facilities of water and grade are available, summer sluicing is resorted to. Water is led onto the muck, which rapidly thaws, disintegrates and passes away under its influence, leaving the gravel bare and exposed. The sun's rays are sufficient to thaw the gravel and enable it to be shoveled into cars, which are dumped into the sluice box, and the gold is recovered by washing in the ordinary manner. Where the muck is too deep for this method being profitably employed, shafts are sunk to bedrock, the pay run is opened up by drifts and cross-cuts underground, breasted out and hoisted to the surface, where the process of sluicing finishes the work. Until this year it was not possible to mine the gravel profitably unless it happened to be exceedingly rich. The introduction of steam thawsers has revolutionized this and brought lower grade pay within the scope of profitable treatment. There is not space available here to give a description of steam thawing, but ample proof has already been given of its efficacy and simplicity. As an economical process of sinking and drifting, it leaves little to be desired; and the facility it affords for thawing ground within given limits, leaving the hard, frozen portion to act as roofs and walls for the drifts and cross-cuts, thus obviating almost entirely the necessity for timbering, is a very marked advance in the direction of cheaper working costs. Where work upon an extensive scale is being done upon the hillsides and benches the method adopted is that of opening out the pay channel by means of adits driven into the slopes, which are connected by cross-cuts, and the gravel blocked out, mined, run out in cars and by gravitation carried down to the creek, where it is dumped into the sluice box and washed as before described. Owing to the situation of some of these claims, but principally to the fact that they are at present so largely owned by individual miners, who are working them singly and do not possess the necessary facilities of water and dumping ground, which can only be obtained where hillsides and benches are worked in conjunction with creek claims, work is seldom laid out upon any system. Lack of a point of entrance

for tunneling, due to the ground required for that purpose belonging to another claim owner, makes shaft sinking imperative, and the miner is thus very frequently found tediously burning his way down to bedrock by means of wood fires built in the shaft after each mucking out. On some of the upper benches bedrock is only found at a great depth—sometimes over 100 feet—and gravel has to be hoisted that distance by hand, and subsequently treated in a rocker, the water for which has previously been carried up the hill in buckets from the creek below. This is one illustration of the disabilities of the individual miner, who does not possess the necessary capital to work to better advantage. Instances of the disadvantages under which he labors could be multiplied indefinitely did space permit.

HYDRAULIC MINING.

So much has been said about hydraulicing, as applied to the gravel benches in the Klondike, it is to be feared the impression may be gaining ground that this country is specially adapted for the introduction of this process, which is undoubtedly the most comprehensive and economical method of treating bench gravels where the necessary facilities exist for carrying it out successfully. In the opinion of the writer there is no present possibility of bringing this idea within the scope of practical mining, in the great majority of cases which have been discussed as "hydraulic propositions." This opinion is based on the following objections, to which, in most cases, there appears to be no satisfactory answer, under conditions as they now exist: Entire absence of the required volume and pressure of water; lack of facilities for disposing of waste gravel; the manner of the deposition of the gold, which is almost invariably contained in a channel not more than a few feet thick, overlaid by many feet of wash containing no value. The feasibility of hydraulicing frozen ground successfully may well be open to question; this is further objection which must be met. It is almost superfluous to add, therefore, that the greatest care should be exercised in dealing with so-called hydraulic enterprises. It must not, however, be imagined for a moment that these objections attach to the working of such properties with commercial success; it is only the suggested system under consideration which appears impracticable. If the gold is known to be there it is beyond doubt that it can be extracted by means suited to the case—probably in the manner described in referring to hillsides and benches.

WORKING COSTS.

This most important question is one upon which, unfortunately, no reliable data is at present obtainable. In a country like the Klondike, where gravel mining is in the experimental stage, such a condition of affairs could only be expected. Everything here is in a state of transition from the old haphazard methods, when energies were directed solely towards the production of gold without counting its cost. Order is slowly, but surely, emerging from recklessness and disorder; the work of the past 12 months gives the most striking evidence of that which could well be found. All that can be said at this juncture is that by no possible system of generalization can working costs be averaged over the whole field. Each undertaking must be measured by its own merits or demerits, and the variation between the cheapest and the dearest ground to work will probably be very wide indeed. Whilst the present cost of

mining supplies and provisions are far too high, and the rates of transport both from the outside to Dawson and from Dawson to the creeks (the latter, especially) are exceedingly heavy, there are growing evidences of a substantial reduction in the near future in all freight costs. Additional facilities of access to Dawson from the outside world, and an earnest of some attempt being made by the government to build roads capable of being utilized for wheel traffic, to supersede the disgraceful "trails" over which everything has, up to the present, been carried by trains of heavily laden pack-mules, may be expected to bring about this much-needed change. Capital, when employed in mining here, can always protect itself against the absurd prices and commercial "corners" which have pressed so heavily on the single-handed miner, by purchasing supplies and provisions in the cheapest market and importing them into Dawson. Wage rates have come down nearly 50 per cent during the summer season just closing. At the opening the ruling wages were \$1 per hour, i. e. \$10 per working day. The prevailing rate now is 40 cents per hour and board, which is equal to about \$5.50 per day. A most serious feature in connection with working costs is the government royalty of 10 per cent on the gross output of all claims, with an exemption where the annual output does not exceed \$5,000. The unfairness of this system of calculation upon the gross returns is manifest to all those on whom the burden falls, but the government, apparently, fails to realize that this tax is not only operating oppressively and inequitably, but that it is restricting enterprise in a very marked degree. It was originally imposed—so far as it is possible to ascertain—under the impression that all the claims in the Klondike were immensely rich and productive of enormous profits to their fortunate owners. Although it is now clear to any unprejudiced observer that this is not the case, and that the present high prices of all mining necessities are sufficient in themselves to keep profits within very modest limits, where the ground is not exceptionally rich, this exorbitant and unequal tax is still continued. Fuel is likely to become an item for serious consideration in the near future. Coal has been discovered within a comparatively short distance of the mining camps, but it has not yet been sufficiently tested for steam purposes to permit of a serious opinion being offered as to its economic value in that direction. In any case until roads have been constructed which would allow of its conveyance to the creeks at reasonable rates of transport, it cannot be regarded as a factor in the calculation. The present fuel supply is entirely wood. This is necessarily becoming rapidly scarcer in the neighborhood of the most extensively-worked portions of the creeks, and it will be well to remember this in view of framing estimates of the cost of working ground where a steam thawing plant is proposed to be installed. Speaking generally it may be said that the cost of handling the gravels will depend largely upon the manner in which the ground can be worked, the width and depth of the channel, and the distribution of values in the pay dirt. Sufficient has doubtless been said to emphasize the necessity of regarding with suspicion all statements which are based on loose generalization.

MINING LAWS.

It is not within the province of this article to dissect the laws which govern mining in the Klondike and discuss in detail their many objectionable features; this will doubtless be done by others, who will make them the subject of special articles. It would be wrong, however, not to allude to their important bearing upon operation here, and ignorance of their provisions, especially those

relating to the definition of boundaries of claims, might easily lead to vexatious litigation and possible loss.

VALUE OF CLAIMS.

In referring to the inequitable application of the royalty tax allusion has already been made to the wide disparities in values. Local prices will illustrate this forcibly enough. While some claims can be bought for a few hundreds of dollars, others are held for sums running into six figures. Results of working have amply proved that this strongly marked distinction is justifiable, and prices are regulated largely by the known value and extent of the pay-streak on different creeks and on different portions of the same creek. The opportunity is thus given for the man of smaller means to become possessed of mining ground as well as the capitalist. In all cases, however, the greatest care should be exercised in negotiating the purchase of ground. The terms are generally cash, or a large proportion in cash and the balance from the first cleanup. No effort should therefore be spared to ascertain, as far as circumstances will permit, the nature and value of the claim or claims proposed to be purchased. Too much emphasis can not be placed upon this, for while there are undoubtedly a great number of genuine mining properties to be secured, at prices which should leave ample margins for profit if properly worked, the chances of loss through ignorance of mining conditions, or a careless disregard of business precautions, are innumerable.

The most important features connected with mining enterprises have been dealt with here as fully as space would allow. The writer has, as far as possible, confined himself to easily verifiable facts, leaving conclusions to be drawn from them by those who are interested in acquiring information of the country and its conditions.

In conclusion, some opinions may be offered regarding the general outlook, after a brief description of the gold-bearing area and its extent. The area within which active mining is being carried on will cover, roughly, about 1,500 square miles. In this region, which lies immediately E., E. N. E. and E. S. E. of Dawson, all the principal creeks have their source in what is known as the Dome mountains. This is a high ridge, or watershed, with several prominent elevations. The mean height of this divide is probably over 3,500 feet above sea level. The total length of the creeks and their tributaries taking their rise in the Dome, which are now in process of being worked more or less continuously, cannot be less than from 100 to 125 miles. In most of these creeks gold is found in the bottom of the valleys, and on one or the other (sometimes both) of the hillsides by which they are confined. The result of most recent developments tends to prove a more general distribution of gold within the already known or worked area than was previously believed. That the field has a length of life much beyond what it is generally credited with, does not seem open to doubt on the part of those who have traveled over it and seen the developments which have taken place during the past 12 months. It is quite justifiable to presume that gravel mining in the Klondike is yet almost in its infancy. Perhaps the greatest misconception which exists among those who are personally acquainted with the country is that it is essentially a field for individual enterprise, and not for the investment of capital. Some of the illustrations already given should be sufficient to, at least, lead the inference that the reverse is really the case. In nearly all enterprises here, if sound and economical work is to be done, the necessity exists for an initial outlay to provide a plant, the building and provisioning of a camp and the employ-

ment of labor on a scale commensurate with the nature of the undertaking. By this means large quantities of pay gravel are brought within the scope of profitable treatment which would not yield "wages" for the miner by the crude methods at his disposal. All conditions point to the fact that apart from the limited number of very rich claims, whose fortunate owners are already rich men, this country is not a poor man's paradise—far from it. The belief in this view no doubt arose from the unsafe practice, so frequently resorted to in new mining camps, of generalizing from exceptions, but the whole field cannot be judged by this system of measurement.

There is gold enough here to induce the belief that mining will be actively prosecuted for years to come, but the days of prosperity for the miner without capital appear to be numbered. The tendency, in the writer's opinion, must inevitably be in the direction of the acquirement of groups of claims and consequent concentration of management and work. By this means the capital outlay at the start will be spread over a larger working area, the expenses will be kept within the narrowest limits; the life of the venture and its profit-earning capacity will be increased, and the risk attendant upon staking success on a single claim will be considerably diminished. These opinions are the result of a careful study of the mining and economic conditions governing most of the work here, and it may be said finally that not only are there good opportunities here for the investment of capital—always, be it understood, under proper safeguards—but that with more favorable mining laws, which the Canadian government cannot neglect much longer to grant, and reduced cost of living and transportation, which must inevitably come from honest trade competition, and the construction of proper roads, there is a sound future and a long life for placer mining in the Yukon Territory.

Has Many Valuable Claims.

Humboldt Gates is one of the few successful young men in the Klondike. The glowing reports of the many rich gold finds in the Yukon attracted his attention, and he decided to enter the life of a miner. Young and ambitious, he left his home in Eureka, Humboldt county, California, at the age of 19, and took passage to Juneau, Alaska, where he purchased a year's outfit, and in the spring of 1894 crossed over the Chilkoot pass. In company with several other fortune seekers Mr. Gates arrived at Lake Marsh, and there built a boat, landing at Fortymile in July of the same year. Losing no time, he staked a claim on Miller creek, and was fairly successful. In the summer of 1895 reports of gold being found on Hunker creek attracted his attention, and he staked a claim on No. 12 below, prospecting that summer. The same fall Cormack struck gold on Bonanza. This fact, however, was not known on Hunker creek until the stampede from Fortymile was well on. Humboldt went up Eldorado, as all the available ground on Bonanza and Adams creeks was taken up, and staked No. 23. Returning then to Hunker, he built a cabin, making preparations to remain and work that winter. In November he came down to what is now known as Klondike city, at the mouth of the Klondike river, to purchase some provisions, and, intending to start up Hunker early the following morning, he went to sleep in a cabin adjoining the store. About midnight he was awakened, as a man had been stabbed during a drunken brawl and no one was willing to go for a doctor. Humboldt saw that the wounded man's life was in a precarious condition, and without a moment's hesitation

started for Fortymile, a distance of 54 miles, where the only physician resided. He had traveled 26 miles from Hunker that afternoon, and the night was bitter cold; but Humboldt, being strong and agile and a man of his word, thought nothing of making the journey to help a fellow man. He reached Fortymile before noon, making a remarkably fast trip and nearly freezing his feet by wearing rubber boots. He at once informed Dr. Wills, the police surgeon, who arrived in Klondike city just in time to perform the necessary operation and save the wounded man's life. After several days' rest Humboldt returned to his Hunker creek claim. News of gold having been discovered on Eldorado brought him to that creek, and in the spring a small fortune was the result of the washup. Humboldt sent for his stepfather, C. W. Hall, and brother, Edgar Gates, who arrived in the summer of 1897, and together they acquired many claims and interests.

Among Mr. Gates' many mining properties the following are worthy of mention: Half interest in No. 28 Eldorado; No. 20 above on Sulphur, and interests in Nos. 8, 18, 29, 42, 51 and 74A below on Sulphur creek; one-half of 12 and 24 below on Hunker; interests in No. 6 below upper and No. 11 below lower discovery, Dominion creek; one-half of No. 5 on Last Chance; Nos. 20 and 23 on American gulch; also interests on Gold Run, and several bench claims on Hunker and Bonanza.

At the present writing Mr. Gates is outside for the purpose of bringing in machinery to work his numerous properties. Edgar Gates, his brother, is also outside for the benefit of his health. Miss Minnie Gates, a charming young lady, well known in Dawson society circles, arrived here in the spring of 1898 to share her brother's good fortune.

Owner of the Famous No. 17, Eldorado.

James Hall, known among the old-timers by the sobriquet of "Arkansas Jim," is one of the few men who braved the dangers and hardships of the early days on the Yukon. Born and reared in Missouri, when quite a boy, he moved to Texas and engaged in cattle raising. At the age of 17, when the war between the North and South was at its height, Jim enlisted in the Federal army, and served in the ranks till the capitulation of Richmond. Receiving an honorable discharge, he returned to his cattle ranch. In the spring of 1886 he went north and, like a thorough Westerner, plunged into the interior of Alaska, then a barren wilderness. The same summer saw him at work rocking the gravel bars on Stewart river, and when Fortymile was struck in the fall he gathered his tent and provisions and floated down the Yukon, arriving at his destination shortly afterward. In July, 1887, Bonanza bar was struck, and later on Franklin gulch. In 1888, in company with Neil McArthur, Ed Sullivan and Alfred Lapere, Jim Hall worked a claim just below Moose creek, erecting a large flume from Moose creek, which was carried away by the flood the following spring, destroying nearly a year's hard work. In the fall of 1889 the shortage of food, brought on by the wrecking of the only steamer on the Yukon, caused pandemonium at Fortymile. The miners were notified, and after dividing the meager supply of flour and bacon a small number decided to remain, while about 100, Jim Hall among them, prepared with short rations, embarked on their boats and reached St. Michaels as the river was freezing over, where they spent the winter. Next spring they all returned to Fortymile, and great was the joy when the small band of anxious and half-starved miners sighted the coming steamer.

In the fall of 1891 Davis creek was struck, and Jim Hall went up to the

headwaters with v... years, happen... late in... Jim... Carma... nanna, turning... staked... seep Co... Joe, of... Jim Ha... same fo... No. 17... when th... rich the... "Fren... which... sum... Jim H... his frie... board... helping... Interest... one of... promoti... owns v... building... furnish... the adv... he never... the Yuk... subject... made m... is good... No. 17... male Jim... richest c... has prod... claim in... over a th... streak is... clear ac... from 16... been su... The com... sively v... chinery, a dynam... Mr. Th... cent man... Mr. Lloy... from U... ber of ye... sh-riff of... quently... mining... owns ex... he acqu... the Yuk...

A Rich... The K... Ltd., T... and A... one of... panes o... company... purchas... on Sulph... men we... men an... make re... the snow... power b... fixtures... claims... mence a... claims... holes an... which al... working... will be... and con... tiful cit... work of... waste w... working... hoisting... will be... in suit... 300 cord... fall, 51... the fore... has been... agents f...

headwaters of Fortymile and worked with varied success for the next five years, waiting for the unexpected to happen. Coming down to Fortymile late in the fall of 1896 to spend the winter, Jim Hall found the town deserted. Oarmack had made the discovery on Bonanza, and the stampede was just returning, reporting that the creeks were staked from one end to the other. Joseph Costello, better known as "French Joe," who had staked a claim on a tributary of Bonanza, offered to sell it, and Jim Hall and N. Picotte purchased the same for \$600. It is the now famous No. 17, Eldorado. The following spring, when the new owners discovered how rich their property was, they presented "French Joe" with 75 feet of the claim, which he sold shortly after for a large sum.

Jim Hall is a man highly esteemed by his friends. His word is as good as his bond. Liberal to a fault, he has lent a helping hand to many a friend in need. Interested in several enterprises, he is one of the foremost advocates for the promotion of local industry. He also owns valuable real estate, one of the buildings being the most elegantly furnished hotel in Dawson. With all the advantages of wealth and luxury, he never has expressed a desire to leave the Yukon. When questioned on the subject he usually replies: "I have made my money here, and the country is good enough for me to live in."

No. 17 Eldorado, the claim which made Jim famous, is beyond doubt the richest claim in the Yukon basin. It has produced more gold than any single claim in the Klondike, and only a little over a third has been worked. The pay-streak is fully 5.0 feet wide, and extends clear across the creek. The bedrock is from 16 to 20 feet deep, and no hole has been sunk without showing rich pay. The coming winter No. 17 will be extensively worked with improved machinery, steam thawers and hoists; also a dynamo for underground lighting.

Mr. Thomas Lloyd is the able and efficient manager of Mr. Hall's properties. Mr. Lloyd arrived here in 1897, coming from Utah, where he mined for a number of years, and for ten years served as sheriff of Carbon county, and subsequently was appointed the first state mining inspector of Utah. Mr. Lloyd owns extensive mining properties, which he acquired during his residence in the Yukon.

A Rich English Company on Sulphur.

The Klondike Development Company, Ltd., T. A. R. Purchas, representative, and A. Lockwood, resident manager, is one of the most important English companies operating on Sulphur creek. This company, in the person of Mr. Purchas, purchased Nos. 19 to 24, inclusive, above on Sulphur, for \$75,000. A force of 25 men were immediately set to building mess and lodging houses, and cabins to make ready for the winter. As soon as the snow will allow sledding, a 12-horse-power boiler and engine and thawing fixtures will be transferred to the claims. Development work will commence at the lower end of the group of claims, which will consist of sinking holes and drifting across the pay-streak, which area has been exposed by old workings of a width of 200 feet. Shafts will be sunk from 80 to 100 feet apart, and connected, in order to afford a plentiful circulation of good air. As the work of stopping advances up stream the waste will be stored behind in the old workings, which will obviate a useless hoisting of waste gravel. A circular saw will be used in the cutting of the wood in suitable lengths for the boiler, the 300 cords having been cut during the fall. Since the beginning of work, in the fore part of August, much progress has been made in the surface arrangements for the winter work. Manager

Lockwood looking after the supervision of the work with close attention. The development work of the laymen last winter was very unsatisfactory, as some time was wasted in useless sinking off the pay-streak. The main office of the company is at No. 3 Throgmorton avenue, London, E. C. Among the directors are George Kennie Airth, representing H. B. Marshall, James Mitchell, J. P., chairman of the Klondike (Government) Concession, Ltd., T. S. Marshall, of Morrison & Marshall, Ltd., James McKillop, M. P., Hon. Arthur Brand, representing other South African interests. The secretaries of the company are South African Investment Company, Ltd. The company's pack train has taken out to the camp from Dawson a year's provisions, and a full supply of hay has been cut and stored in the stables. The stockholders of this company are mining financiers, who have been connected with the Transvaal fields mining operations since the days of their inception.

Mr. T. A. R. Purchas arrived here on June 17th, 1899, as the financial representative of the company. From 1887 to 1896 he was closely connected with the financial affairs of several Transvaal companies. In the beginning of 1897 he transferred his operations to Canada from South Africa, centering his attentions in the Western Ontario gold fields at quartz reefing. Mr. Purchas is an affable gentleman, of pleasing manners, and, on account of his wide knowledge of affairs and experience and extensive traveling, is well fitted to look after the management of his company, and will make his mark in the Klondike mining world.

Mr. A. Lockwood, the resident manager, is a mining engineer of 30 years' experience, and has been associated with Mr. Purchas in the Province of Quebec at the placer mines of the Chaudiere river. He was associated with Mr. Purchas as his superintendent, and is one of the pioneers in deep sinking in Eastern and Western Ontario, especially in the Lake of the Woods country.

Mining Machinery.

The Klondike Thawing Machine company, of which B. V. Jones is manager, carries a general stock of mining machinery, consisting of the latest improved steam thawers, from eight to twenty-horse power engines and hoists, steam pipe, hose and fittings. A large consignment of machinery is in transit for Dawson at the present writing. After disposing of their machinery Mr. R. V. Jones will go out over the ice and fill orders for any contracts he may receive for mining machinery, such as centrifugal or force pumps, which will furnish water for sluicing on the benches, the same to be delivered early in the spring. Mr. R. V. Jones was one of the few men who demonstrated the practical value of steam thawing in 1898, operating his machine on Gold Hill last winter.

The lack of transportation facilities prevented this firm from supplying the ready demand for their celebrated steam thawers this summer, and better arrangements will be made next season. The office of the company is located on Third avenue, south of Second street, Dawson.

Removal of a Big Gravel Bed.

Around the point made by Bonanza and Adams creeks' water-shed are the two rich and promising bench claims of A. J. McMaster and A. Fossbender, two practical and experienced miners of several years standing. They have stripped the face of the two benches 500 feet in length along the rim and into the hill for 30 feet. The face of the cut is 18 feet in depth. Fully nine-tenths of the ground remains for future development. They bought the claims last year from Pasco and Reynolds for \$3,000, a very cheap bargain, as the claims have been

rich producers. A tunnel has been extended 150 feet to the back line, the entire length in pay gravel. It is the intention of the owners to use a 20-horse power boiler this winter and thaw the ground with 40 points, sending the pay gravel, by means of cars on a gravity tramway, to Adams creek to be sluiced next spring. Fifteen men have been employed all summer, and the amount of gravel that has been moved and run through rockers is a marvel to figure upon. Mr. Fossbender went out this summer to the outside to purchase the boiler and thawing appliances, and will return with the outfit before navigation closes on the upper Yukon river.

Next to this claim, on the upper end, J. W. Slayden, Magaw and crew are working the Sarvent bench claim by means of a tunnel, run from the brow of the hill, sending the gravel down to Adams creek by means of cars on a gravity tram.

Manufacturers of Nugget Jewelry.

J. Sale & Co., formerly Pond & Co., the pioneer jewelers of Dawson, are noted for their original and beautiful designs in the manufacture of nugget and native gold ornaments. Unlike jewelers of the leading cities, the season of the popular firm is never at an end. The Klondike nuggets, odd-shaped and differing in size, offer a wide field for artistic work. Below we mention several valuable articles, which attracted the attention of all Dawson, and cannot be surpassed for beauty and delicate finish, gaining for this firm a world-wide reputation for their excellent workmanship. One of the finest nugget belts made by them was one for Oad Wilson, another for May La More, the beautiful gold badge presented to Chief Fletcher, souvenir paper weight, a compliment to Gold Commissioner Fawcett, nugget picture frames, and countless other articles, original in design and elaborate in finish. The firm conducts two well-appointed stores and factories in Dawson, established in the spring of 1898, possessing the only process of enamel badge work and the only complete stock of silverware in the Yukon Territory. Their display windows draw the attention of the constantly passing throng.

John P. Sale and C. H. Lindemann are the names of the enterprising gentlemen of the firm. Their continued success and high standing in the community is a guarantee that their motto, "Best work and fair treatment," will be strictly adhered to. The main store is on First avenue, next to "Dominion." Branch store and factory, Second avenue, next to Palmer brothers; also branch at Grand Forks.

In the Heart of the Hill.

Extensive work has been done by tunnels and drifts along the pay channel down stream from Senator Lynch's claim to McMaster's claim, at the point above Adams creek. Laymen worked the properties last winter, getting the best results as they drove the tunnels into the hill away from the rim. The owners of these properties hold positions on the hill, starting from Muddock's claim, in the following order: Grant Muddock and Angus McLeellan, Markella, F. C. Wade, P. M. Hartley and J. A. Montgomery, Henry Wagner, James Brown, Cochran, Nelson and Peterson, R. B. Robinson, Charles Ross and John Marrow, Ensley and A. J. McMaster, and A. Fossbender.

Along the second tier the promising properties are owned by Daniel Koch, John Quigg and L. F. Cook, W. V. Wells and John Day, Agner, John Mc Namara and J. Sarvent.

On the second tier the gold is coarser and more plentiful than found on the first tier.

On the third tier L. E. Werson has been offered \$3,000 for his claim, which he refused.

A Popular Hostelry.

On Hunker creek, two miles above the mouth, on Anderson concession, is the comfortable hotel and store belonging to Louis Conture, who is well known and held in high esteem by his large circle of friends. Mr. Conture for a number of years held the responsible office of Indian agent in the Northwest Territory. He was born in Quebec in 1844, and at an early age graduated from the military college. He served in the Fenian raid of 1865 at Niagara, and the Kiel rebellion of 1870 in the volunteer service. In the spring of 1897 he arrived at Dawson in company with his son and located mining property on No. 6, Gold Bottom creek, which is quite promising. Mr. Conture is very proud of his hotel on Hunker creek, which he claims is the best appointed roadhouse for miles around, and enjoys the patronage of all travelers in that direction. He caters to the wants of his patrons so satisfactorily that once a guest insures a return visit.

Have Risen From the Ashes.

In the spring rush of 1898 four brothers, comprising the firm of Anderson brothers, landed in Dawson, and have ever since been recognized as the leaders in their line of business, to-wit: Painters, decorators and sign writers. The firm is composed of H. Anderson, scenic artist and sign writer; L. C. Anderson, who makes a specialty of graining, and A. Anderson and A. Nerland, decorators and painters.

It was not long before the public became aware of their presence and the firm at once did a flourishing business. It was a difficult matter to supply the demand on account of the shortage of stock. In the fire of October 14, 1898, they suffered the total destruction of the building, and only a small stock of wall paper and paint was saved. In order to be ready for business in the early spring they dispatched a messenger with all haste over the ice to Seattle, and in a short time they had received a full stock at an enormous expense. The fire of March 4, 1899, took them by surprise and destroyed their building and shop on the water front. They moved into new quarters on First avenue until the conflagration of April 26th of this year, which destroyed the heart of the city, leveled their shop to the ground. Handicapped by all these misfortunes Anderson brothers set up a new establishment on Second avenue, and 24 hours after the last fire they were doing business as if nothing had happened. We may mention here some of this firm's artistic productions, namely: Alaska scenery, fresco work at the Cafe Royal, the Green Tree hotel wall decorations, drop curtains of the Monte Carlo theater and Opera House, and a number of others, which will remain a monumental credit to the firm. The Anderson brothers are well known throughout cities of the United States. About four years ago the government of Guatemala awarded them a contract to paint and decorate the public buildings and president's palace in that far-off country, but the unhealthy climate of Central America did not agree with the sons of the north, and they arrived in Seattle, remaining until the Klondike boom filled them with a desire to emigrate to the land of gold and hope.

The present establishment of the firm is on Second avenue, between Second and Third streets. This summer the brothers sent for their families and they now occupy a splendid residence on Fifth avenue, which is one of the best appointed houses in Dawson. During their residence in the city the brothers acquired several mining properties, which will be worked the coming winter when the severe Arctic climate prevents them from following, to any extent, the profession of painting.

ESTABLISHED 1892

ESTABLISHED 1892

North American Transportation and Trading Company

Wholesale and Retail Stores at Healy (St. Michael) Cape Nome, Hamilton Station, Weare, Rampart City, Fort Yukon, Circle City, Eagle City, Fort Cudahy, Dawson

Sole Agents for Lubeck's German Sliced Potatoes and the Celebrated Rex Brand of Ham, Bacon and Canned Meats.

The Reliable and Direct Line

to Cape Nome Healy, St. Michael Island Golovin Bay, Koyukuk River, Dawson and all Yukon River points.

Passenger and Freight Business

Handled in a most satisfactory manner. Operates the finest fleet of ocean and river steamers on the Alaskan run. We own the treasure ship Roanoke, which has carried the bulk of the gold dust from this country direct to the mints.

The N. A. T. & T. Company

Owens and operates the only Railroad in the Yukon Territory, in connection with its large coal mining industry, and is also largely interested in gold mining on several of the famous creeks of the Klondike.

*Clothing, Hats and Caps, Boots and Shoes, Groceries of all kinds
Hardware, Building Material Mining, Machinery.*

*Largest Stock and Choicest Brands of Wines and Liquors
We are also Sole Agents for the famous Anheuser-Busch Budweiser Beer
at Wholesale Only.*

N. A. T. & T. Co., Dawson, Y. T.

Our Mammoth Stores

occupy an entire block and we are the leaders in

General Merchandise

Our stock embraces the latest importations in the

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line to be found in any of the large cities of the United States and Canada. Special values in

Furniture

of all kinds, including brass, white enameled and folding beds, dressers, china and glass ware, silverware, musical instruments, clocks, wall paper, draperies, and in fact everything pertaining to this line of business.

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The most complete stock in the country and of the very newest designs

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Comparative Cost of Gold Mining.

By JOHN D. M'GILLIVRAY.



IT is of the history of gold mining the world over that the men who make the rich strikes seldom make fortunes, and that in all the great gold fields of the world the largest profits out of mining have been made from low-grade properties, and most of them long after the first great excitement and the cause of stampedes had gone by. This is particularly true of and best illustrated by the two oldest and greatest of modern gold fields, California and Australia. Out of the thousands of people who rushed to California in 1849 and the early '50's, and to Australia after the first discoveries were made, not more than one out of fifty made a homestead. As rich pay and, in fact, much richer pay has been found in California and Australia than even on Eldorado creek, and the opportunities for making profits were far better, owing to the advantages of climate and other conditions. Larger pans and greater nuggets than have ever been found on Eldorado were very common in California and Australia. The same thing might be said of the Cariboo district and of some of the districts of Montana, but it will be better to compare the Klondike and surrounding districts with Australia and California, because they are more equal in area. For a few years after the discovery of gold in California and in Australia the mining districts in those parts of the world were the poor man's paradise. Money was plenty there, as it has been here, but, in spite of that, the profits were small, owing to the excessive expenses and high cost of everything required to cause the output of gold. The conditions here about the Klondike in 1897 in this respect were much worse than they were in any parts of California or Australia in those early days. One result of this was that not more than a dozen or two men made profits in mining, while thousands grew rich out of exorbitant charges they were enabled to make for all sorts of supplies. The miner made nothing in 1897 worth speaking of, little in 1898, and by 1899 a large proportion of the richest claims have been practically worked out, so that it now becomes a question whether the grasping traders will reduce prices so as to enable miners to develop their property, or capital will come in and bring in its own supplies at reasonable prices, and work ground under improved methods and at lower expenses, and to a profit.

A reduction in the cost of working of ten or twenty per cent in any large gold field always means the opening up of a great deal more than that percentage of ground. None of the African mines, which are now producing some \$50,000,000 a year or more, would be worked at all today were it not for the reductions that have been brought about in the cost of working within the past decade and a half. Of course it is hardly fair to compare the working of gravel with that of quartz, but the principle is the same.

In 1897, on the Klondike, a man would pay for an axe a half ounce or an ounce in gold dust, and often a dollar and a half an hour to one of his laborers to go to town and get it. The total cost of the axe would amount often to some \$20; yet in that winter of 1897-'98 few mines were probably worked over more than 2,000 square yards. This would mean that an axe added to the cost of working, one cent per square yard, and this practically means one cent per cubic

yard. The owner of a claim during that winter would often have to pay as much as \$100 for window frames and glass for his cabin and as much as \$20 in freight and expense of putting it in. This made an additional cost of six cents to the square yard. Then take an Eldorado king, who was extravagant enough to buy an adze to smooth the pole floor of his cabin, and that would add another one cent per square yard to the cost of working his claim. I paid \$3.50 for a tin wash-basin that winter. A few such articles, that were absolutely necessary on each claim, would run the cost of working up to very high figures. I have spoken so far of a few of the smallest items. Take lumber: On a claim such as I have indicated, where 2,000 square yards were worked over, from 3,000 to 5,000 feet of lumber would be required for sluicing dumps in the spring of 1898. At that time the price of lumber and the cost of freight went up to very high figures, and each 1,000 feet cost, delivered on the ground, in a number of cases that I know of on Eldorado, as much as \$700. This meant, in some cases, an increased cost per square yard of \$1.40, or as much as the total cost per yard for drifting in California in many cases under the lava-capped divides, where nearly if not quite as good pay is found as is being worked on Eldorado. It is almost needless to go into further details as to these causes for excessive costs for working. In 1897, except to say that the high rates of wages were caused by excessive charges made for supplies mainly. It would be better to consider some of the costs at present. Practically speaking, they are as high as they were in that year, for it has been proved that but a small proportion of the mines can afford the costs that are now in vogue, and a majority of the mines which could afford the costs of the winter of 1897 are now largely worked out. There can be no question that in extent and area these are as great gold fields as any in the world; but a very small proportion of their gravel can be worked under present conditions as to cost and methods. Many of these costs are caused by the greed of the trading companies, and others by a mistaken policy on the part of the Canadian government. I have recommended to some of the London companies now investing in the Klondike, under my advice, that they combine, ship in their own stores, charter or build steamers to do their own trading, and maintain their own warehouses here, for there is no reasonable excuse for paying several hundred per cent profit on groceries and machinery brought into this country. As to the policy of the government, I shall only touch upon one point, and that is its failure to build roads. A very good wagon road could have been built last year from Dawson to Grand Forks at an expense of not more than \$50,000 or \$75,000, and this would have reduced the rate of freight for the year to an average of not more than three cents per pound, while the average cost has been certainly not less than eight cents. Let us take a low estimate and say that 5,000 tons of freight was shipped from Dawson to the Forks to be distributed at that point or on Eldorado or on its way to upper Bonanza, Sulphur, Quartz and Dominion. This means that the failure of the government to build this very necessary road has cost the miners on that amount of freight \$500,000. Anyone can figure up further in the same direction as to Hunker and Dominion and other parts of the two districts. Of course, it must be admitted that

all these costs will come down, but not in time to do the honest miner and prospector any good. He will do here as he has done the world over in all the great gold fields, blaze the way for capital, and then be compelled to go to work for wages, or push ahead on new stampedes, and finally find a lonely grave in some new mining country.

Capital can compel a reduction of costs if it is offered opportunities, and I do not believe that there are any better opportunities in the world for the investment of capital in mining, if properly directed, than may be found along the Yukon.

With a reduction in the cost of supplies and better means of transportation come, of course, improvements in methods. This is already seen in the introduction of the use of the steam thresher, and in time there will come in here and be applied, modifications of the hydraulic methods built up in California and now in use the world over.

It would appear now that there is much greater opportunities in the bench gravels of the district than in the creeks, and these, even if worked entirely by the drifting process, will in time be exploited at about the cost per cubic yard of working gravels by the same process in California, where the best work of that nature is done. The advantages here, which counteract the climatic disadvantages, are, first, the fact that there is little need for timbering and, second, that there will be required very few expensive long bedrock adit tunnels.

The time will come, I make no doubt, when 50 acres of gravel will be considered rich enough to work where one is now.

I see no reason to believe that the total output of gold will not increase for a great many years to come, and most of the gold will come from gravels that are now considered practically valueless.

A Competent Mining Promoter.

P. R. Ritchie, the resident manager of the British Canadian Gold Fields of the Klondike, has been actively engaged in exploring and handling the properties of this company in an intelligent and conscientious manner. His varied experience throughout the principal mining districts of British Columbia and the Northwest Territory, has enabled him to select the richest section of the Klondike and Indian river districts for the investment of foreign capital. His two years' residence has been replete with prospecting excursions to the outlying creeks at all times of the year. Snowstorms or excessive cold weather not in the least delaying him from a start. In 1892 he was sent out by the Canadian government to make an exhaustive report on the resources of British Columbia and the Northwest Territory, in six months travelling over a vast unsettled territory, for an extent of 25,000 miles. Upon his return to Ottawa he furnished the manuscript for the report, which was distributed throughout Great Britain for the general information of the masses. The impression he gained of the vast mineral resources of British Columbia and the Northwest Territories made such a favorable impression upon his mind that upon the completion of his governmental duties he returned to the coast and selected Vancouver as his place of residence. Later on he explored properties in Rossland, Kamloops and Cariboo mining districts, British Columbia, and with his mining information made a report to several London capitalists.

His experting of these properties brought about the formation of several London companies, who availed themselves of his services in the management of the properties.

The office of the British Canadian Gold Fields of the Klondike is located at Nos. 10 and 11, Austin Friars, London, England. Their principal property is located at the mouth of Indian river, which consists of a valuable hydraulic concession extending from the mouth of Indian river up stream for a distance of two and a half miles, and including ground from hilltop to hilltop. This company has also several options on properties of Dominion and Hunker creeks, which, after prospecting work, will be later on extensively developed.

Mr. Ritchie has sent out a corps of miners to exploit and prospect the river bed of the hydraulic concession in order to determine the extent of his subsequent hydraulic operations. In the event that the gravel deposits hold in value and extent in depth in proportion to the values as shown by surface prospects, the company will invest in steam shovels, gravel elevators and large plunger pumps. A steam plant furnishes the motive power in order to successfully handle a large area of gravel beds with the least expense in the shortest possible time. It is the intention of the company to carry on their hydraulic mining according to the best methods adopted in the rich placers and hydraulic mines of the famous Eldorado, Nevada, Tuolumne, Placer and Yuba counties of California. On account of his good showing he has been in great demand by other companies to exploit and expert their mining properties for future development.

Mr. Ritchie is socially inclined, and was one of the promoters of the Dawson club, and took considerable interest in mining affairs, looking toward the advancement of the condition of the prospector and miner. He was the leading spirit at first in the organization of a mining association in Dawson, but when the objects of the movement were turned for political gain by several agitators, he withdrew his support and membership from the organization. He takes interest in all movements for the district's and Dawson's improvement, and is never backward in making financial contributions for all worthy objects.

Dr. Macfarlane's Mining Operations.

Dr. R. R. Macfarlane, who is well known in Dawson medical circles for the good work that he has performed at St. Mary's hospital, has been called East by the directors of the British Columbia Colorado Gold and Silver Mining Company to consult with them concerning the line of policy to be pursued in the opening up of their claims next year. This company owns Nos. 2 and 3 on Ready Bullion and other property on Dominion and Hunker, including a hillside adjoining the upper half of No. 1 above lower, Dominion; also one adjoining No. 1 below lower. The doctor's position at the hospital has been held in abeyance until his return over the ice in the spring. He regretted leaving his extensive practice, but the inducements offered him by the company were too pressing and remunerative to be refused.

The directors are large mining operators of British Columbia and Colorado, and, as the company has been heavily capitalized, the community may look for their advent in Dawson, prepared to take a prominent position among the several large mining companies.

Eldorado and Its Tributaries.

ELDERADO creek continues to hold the first place in the annual gold output of the Klondike district. Before the discovery and extensive development work on the long string of hillside and bench claims Eldorado easily produced over half the gold output of the Klondike in the two spring cleanups of 1897 and 1898. Conservative estimates made by well informed mine owners place the gold output of the Klondike and Indian river districts at \$8,000,000 and \$12,000,000 in 1897 and 1898, respectively. In the cleanup of last spring, or of 1899, the estimate places the amount at \$15,000,000. Eldorado creek produced more gold than the two preceding years on account of the service of the steam thawers and the better handling of the mines in the process of wood burning. Successful thawing of the ground by means of fire is an exact science, and time and patience have shown the way for the best results. This past summer has witnessed a very successful ground sluicing and cleanup of the bedrock on Eldorado by means of derrick and bucket in use on several of the claims, and while the majority of the claim owners did no summer sluicing and intend to reserve their ground for winter burning, the work that was done has netted the claim owners very handsome returns. The use of steam shovels and gravel elevators by the claim owners is not far off, as summer sluicing with the improved methods is fully one-half cheaper than the old method of burning practiced by those not favorable to the adoption of steam thawing methods.

Opinion widely differs concerning the richness of the several claims on Eldorado. No. 17, owned by Jim Hall and N. Picotte, during the first two years ranked as one of the leading producers. It was not out of the common to see Foreman Trumbley carry a pan full of gold to the cabin upon the completion of a cleanup. No. 36, owned by Alex. McDonald, was extensively worked the last two summers. During August of 1898 the bedrock next to the left limit was found to be rough and in ridges, a condition very favorable for the lodgment of gold. The daily cleanups for several weeks ranged from \$15,000 to \$30,000—a marvelous yield when it is taken into consideration that only two men shoveled into the sluice boxes, the other men being engaged in shoveling to the platform and digging.

It is now accepted as an undisputed fact that the gold in Eldorado creek has its source from the old river channel or mantle deposit along the hillside or left limit. The range of hills on the right limit, dividing Bonanza from Eldorado, is unproductive as far as profitable mining goes. The hillside claims above the low rim next to the creek and the tiers of benches have produced very little gold between Gold hill and French hill's wonderfully rich gold deposits. The surface erosions from glacial and water action have carried the gold down the slope into the creek bed, which accounts for the productiveness of this section of the creek, below French gulch to near the mouth. Above Chief gulch, at a point where Eldorado forks, mining has not been very successful, and mining experts have been secretly purchasing the hillside and bench claims along the right limit, believing that the paystreak leaves the creek near Clay gulch and trends more easterly towards Victoria gulch and along it to Bonanza creek. To sum it up, Eldorado has 40 very rich claims, each one having a gravel deposit worth a good-sized fortune, and two hills of benches at French and Gold hill, whose total yield, with few exceptions,

has eclipsed the best returns from the creek claims as shown on Bonanza, Hunker, Dominion and Sulphur creeks.

A Successful Mine Owner.

J. B. Lee is one of the most successful claim owners of Eldorado, and will be engaged this winter in developing and extracting the rich pay gravel off the bedrock from claim 32, Eldorado. In partnership with Charles J. Anderson he owns a two-thirds interest in this rich claim, the other partners being Henry C. Anderson and William Sloan. He had charge of all the development work on No. 29, the property of Charley Anderson up to last August for the past two years, and the manner in which he handled the property in summer sluicing and winter burning shows plainly that he is thoroughly conversant with all the requirements of placer mining. He introduced giant powder in the breaking up of the frozen muck to expedite ground sluicing, but found that the giant's explosive powers were too great for its successful and economical use, and later on used black powder in its stead. With a force of 27 men he stripped the muck and top gravel off of a space of ground on 32, about 60 feet wide and 400 feet long, using a head of water to the best advantage in ground sluicing.

This winter he will do some drifting to locate and uncover the paystreak on each side of the stripped ground next to the banks or limits of the creek. His intention is to adopt summer sluicing in the working of his claim, as it is so much cheaper and more satisfactory as compared with the winter burning, a slow and costly process.

Next summer the ground stripped will be shoveled into the sluice boxes and another block of creek bed stripped for the following year's sluicing. The richness of the paystreak is equal to the balance of the claims in that section of Eldorado, which has the greater part of the gold deposited on its bedrock from the left limit hillside.

Since the marriage of Mr. Lee to Miss Lillian De Vosse, formerly of Chicago, it has become his one ambition to amass a fortune from his valuable mining properties and with his charming helpmate settle down in life in one of the many delightful cities of Southern California. The marriage ceremony was performed at the Klondike hotel on July 1, 1899, by Rev. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Card acting as best man and bridesmaid, respectively. A delightful wedding supper was served at the hotel the same evening, twenty covers occupied by the friends of the happy couple, and as Frank Swanson had lost five cases of wine on the event, it is needless to mention that the popping of corks was not wanting at this marital feast. The bride, with dark eyes, slender and graceful in figure, and possessing winsome ways, is a brunette, of medium height, who first met her husband on the steamer Susie, while in company with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Card. On the voyage out via St. Michael, in the summer of 1898, the acquaintanceship ripened into a deeper affection, which culminated in their marriage vows for better and for worse during their future lifetime.

John B. Lee was born near Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in 1869, and upon leaving his parents' home on a farm adopted the trade of boiler making. In the latter part of the eighties he moved to Tacoma, Washington, and was in the city during the boom days, realizing good wages from his trade and making money from several successful realty ventures. In the spring of 1895, via Juneau, he joined the small band of adventurers bound for the placers of Forty-

mile and Birch creek districts. He stopped at Fortymile and obtained claim No. 16 above on Glacier creek in the summer of 1894. He worked the claim until he abandoned it in the late fall of 1896 to come to the Klondike, employing eight men in the summer sluicing. The fore part of September, 1896, he heard of the strike on Bonanza creek, but did not put much faith in what was told. About the middle of September, with a pack and camp outfit, he tramped over the hills a distance of about 100 miles to Fortymile post to purchase the winter's supply of provisions. He returned to Glacier creek, but hearing additional and more reliable news of the Klondike strike, he left for Dawson in November, traveling on the ice. He found all the creek claims staked on Bonanza, Eldorado and Hunker, and hence bought claim No. 5 below on Bonanza for \$750. In a contest case the claim was taken from him, the seller having no reliable title. The loss of the claim was a setback, but losing no time he went over to Hunker during the Christmas holidays, and for a half interest started to represent No. 14 below. He sunk a hole 18 feet deep next to the creek bed but missed the paystreak. He threw up the interest and moved over to Eldorado, securing a 50 per cent. lay from Charley Anderson on No. 29 Eldorado. He struck pay with the first hole, and the spring cleanup took out enough to start him on the way to make a stake for life. His work was so satisfactory that Mr. Anderson engaged him to manage the summer sluicing of 1898, and until last August he continued his position until his own mining interests compelled him to hand in his resignation to devote all his time to No. 32.

Mr. Lee is stalwart in frame, with the hearty and brusque manner of an adventurous frontiersman, and if he does not make his mark among the most successful mine owners of the Klondike the writer will be wide from a prophetic guess into the future.

A Quarter Million Cleanup.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Stander have become prominently identified in the hotel circles of the Grand hotel at San Francisco, California, where they spent the greater part of last winter, and are back again at the same quarters for this winter. During the summer months they spend the time looking after the management and cleanups on the very rich claims Nos. 4 and 5, Eldorado, and No. 40 above on Bonanza.

Mr. Stander was associated the first season with Clarence Berry in the ownership of the aforesaid claims, but in the fall of 1898 the partnership was dissolved, Stander taking No. 4 and the lower part of No. 5 and \$50,000 for compensation. No. 40 above on Bonanza was divided also, so that for the past year they have worked their properties separately. In 1898 they took out in four strong boxes \$200,000 in gold dust, the result of the season's cleanup, and this year \$140,000 was stowed away in their stateroom upon one of the Canadian Development company's steamers, on their out-bound trip for San Francisco.

A. F. Stander is a quiet and unassuming miner, who is frugal in his habits, devoted in his attentions to his wife, and has made up his mind to enjoy the comforts of civilization, which a well-filled poke can supply at a moment's notice. Mrs. Violet Stander is a prepossessing blonde, jovial in nature, of a graceful and well-developed figure, who seconds her husband's plans for a life of ease and luxury. They intend visiting the Paris exposition upon the completion of next year's cleanup, and will make a

tour of all the principal cities upon the continent with a party of friends. Mrs. Stander has been presented by her husband with a large collection of beautiful jewelry, studded with diamonds, to a value of \$30,000. Among the collection are several clusters of diamonds and emeralds set in rings and pins by Tiffany & Co., of New York city. Besides these presents, Mr. Stander last year made out a check on the First National Bank of San Francisco in favor of his wife for \$50,000. She has invested the money in the Market street railway stock of San Francisco, which draws monthly dividends.

Introduced Electricity on the Claims.

Clarence J. Berry and his estimable wife occupied their two-story cabin on No. 6, Eldorado, this summer, and were passengers for their elegant home in Selma, Fresno county, California, upon one of the up-river steamers the fore part of this month. Clarence Berry is a general favorite among the miners on Eldorado and Bonanza on account of his good treatment and kindly relations with his employees, and also for his generous nature, which responds cheerfully to all calls of deserved charity. In the management and development of No. 6 and the upper portion of No. 6, Eldorado, he has introduced a steam hoist and device for the quick handling and dumping of the pay gravel into the string of sluice boxes. For night work he introduced the use of electric lights, which was an innovation in the Yukon, solely utilized by himself. Besides the already mentioned claims on Eldorado he owns the half of No. 40 above and three-quarters of No. 5 below on Bonanza, a half in 18 below lower, Dominion, two-thirds in Nos. 21 and 42 below, Hunker, and Nos. 5 and 6, hillside claims on Eldorado. The paystreak on Nos. 5 and 6, Eldorado, is not only fabulously rich but extends from rim to rim a distance of 300 feet. This summer a block of creek bed next to the right limit, 60x300 feet, was stripped of muck and top gravel by means of a scoop-shovel hauled by cable and a four-horse boiler and engine. The depth to bedrock is 14 feet, and in the use of a large bucket swung on a yardarm and derrick the pay dirt was handled with celerity and cheapness, a great improvement over the old method of handling from a platform connected by a string of shovellers. A 25-horse power boiler and engine furnishes the motive power for the electric lights and hoisting gear, and also the steam for thawing the frozen gravel.

In the absence of Clarence Berry and brothers, J. H. Hamill has charge of the winter work on the Eldorado claims, besides taking the active management as foreman the past summer and winter. Mr. Hamill is a very capable manager, who will look after Mr. Berry's interests with the same attention and interest as he would any mining interests of his own. About 15 men will have employment in winter development work, the force the past summer numbering about 50 men. The balance of the claims will be given out on lays, except No. 5 below on Bonanza, which has been reserved for next summer's sluicing. Frank Berry owns two hillside claims adjoining Nos. 10 and 11 below upper on Dominion, left limit, which have proven themselves rich producers.

Clarence Berry will return here next year in time for the spring cleanup, but this time his devoted wife will not return to the Klondike, as formerly, as her health has been very poor the past summer. Her life was in danger for a time last August, and the salubrious climate of California, it is hoped, will return to her cheeks the bloom of health and good cheer.

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Bonanza and Its Tributaries.

LOWER Bonanza creek, from the mouth of Boulder at No. 35 below to the Klondike, did not produce very much gold last winter and this summer. The experience of the 50 per cent laymen in the season of 1897 and 1898 was not encouraging, so that few laymen worked on the different claims this last season, taking instead lays on the benches along the left limit.

The only section in the creek bed which has given encouragement for summer sluicing is at No. 81 below, the point where the old gravel channel evidently swung more to the east and crossed from the left to the right limit and winding around the point below the mouth of Lovett gulch emptied into the Klondike river. During the winters of 1897 and 1898 almost every foot of ground on lower Bonanza was worked by laymen, who imagined that they would make a fortune off gravel that produced about 30 cents and under to the pan taken off of bedrock.

The cleanup brought these sanguine and hard-working laymen to a bitter realization of the fact that the ground would not admit of a commensurate profit and that the extraction of 50 per cent royalty on the gross output was too high by fully 20 to 33 per cent.

From Boulder creek up to discovery and beyond along upper Bonanza to Victoria gulch the pay dirt is more satisfactory, being the richest at discovery and the three claims above and from No. 12 above to No. 40, inclusive. The three richest claims on Bonanza are unquestionably No. 2 above, Dick Lowe's fraction and No. 26 above. Developments this winter on Nos. 25, 27 and 28 above on Bonanza may bring these claims on a par with the three mentioned as gold dust producers. To illustrate, No. 2 above has had \$30,000 cleanups for a three days' run, and the Lowe fraction has done equally as well. On No. 26 above, in the summer of 1897, Con Dahl is authority for the statement that the cleanup represented fully \$200,000 off a space of ground 400 feet long by 40 feet wide. Since then the claim has produced an equal amount. Nine-hundred-dollar pans on No. 2 above and on the Lowe fraction have become an item of history in the mining annals, and no longer creates any comment when the amount is reproduced. It goes without saying that the gravel was selected and picked to produce any such enormously rich pans. Lower Bonanza is the proper field for large companies to operate, and the owners should encourage capital by not holding the claims at exorbitant prices. By securing a chain of from five to ten claims capital can develop them profitably by the introduction of gravel elevators, centrifugal pumps and steam shovels for an extensive handling of the gravel deposits. The claim owner is handicapped because he is not in a financial position to avail himself of labor-saving machinery, and hence it is only a question of time when capital will fall into possession of all this part of Bonanza.

Bonanza Benches.

The history of the last year's development of bench claims and hillsides along the left and right limits of Bonanza is a record of individual claim owners making a stake for life. The honor and distinction as the first pioneers in the bench claim diggings belong to Andy Henesley and Billy Rivers, formerly of Juneau and Cook's Inlet. In the early summer of 1897 they began sinking a hole on the bench opposite No. 6, Eldorado, Berry's claim, and when bedrock was reached, some 20 feet in depth, the

pay gravel revealed the fact that the creek did not hold all the gold in the Klondike district. Old residents well remember the fact that they were objects of general derision among the creek claim owners, and, good-naturedly, were the butt for much chaffing and joshing all along Eldorado. But their faith was unshaken in the merits of the bench, and they sold out and left the country in the summer of 1898 with about \$15,000 each in their pockets. This year Andy Hensley has returned to pursue the life of an old and confirmed prospector after investing the bulk of his dust in a well stocked farm back in one of the middle states of the United States. Billy Rivers is at home with his family, contented to no more court fortune's favor among the Klondike placers.

The next in line was Neil Peterson, who made his discovery on a hillside claim at the mouth of Big Skookum upon the right limit. Then followed the discoveries of Ben Howard and J. Chase opposite and upon the left limit of Big Skookum. G. A. Lancaster, on the side of Gold hill, opposite No. 2 Eldorado, was not idle. He staked his bench, 100 feet square, on July 31, 1897, and found gold in big paying quantities a few days later.

When the winter of 1897 and 1898 came on, and the exceedingly cold spell of November nipped everybody not prepared with warm clothing and a suitable cabin, the prospecting on the hillsides terminated and Gold Hill, Big Skookum and No. 6, bench of Eldorado, were the places of activity. Even the yield of gold was not generally known by the public from these benches, so that there was not much excitement among the miners and stampedeers of Dawson. It remained for the Cariboo Bill's discovery on French hill in March, 1898, to set the mining world to thinking that the bench territory offered great inducements for prospectors. The eight bench claims around and near discovery on French hill have not been equalled for the yield of gold. One burning of a fire would thaw enough gravel from a face to hoist fully \$2000 in a shift. The famous claims since partially and completely worked out are discovery, owned by Joe Staley and William Deittering and the claims of Dan Staley, Burke, Armstrong, Edward McConnell and H. O'Donnell, Alex McDonald and Dan Saunders. Then followed the strike of Hopkins on the bench between Big and Little Skookum. There were only two claims that held the gold there, that is discovery and the one just below it owned by Mark Russell and Gus Brown.

Close on to the heels of this strike was O. B. Millet, who uncovered gold and the pay channel on the point opposite discovery claim on Bonanza. This section has since been named Cheechaco or Adams hill, a section which ranks next to Gold hill in the gold product. During the summer of 1898 the few comers flocked to the hillsides below Adams creek and began sinking holes in the gravel beds from Adams hill to Boulder creek.

J. Ben Lewis and Henry Brown were the first to locate the bench paystreak during the latter part of May, 1898, by sinking a hole a few feet in the loose ground of a slide opposite No. 30 below on Bonanza. From that discovery the news spread that the old gravel channel extended all along the left limit of Bonanza, so that all the benches and hillsides were located in June and July of last year. The past season's work has uncovered the paystreak fully 700 feet wide on Adams hill and the same width opposite No. 30 below on Bonanza. But at Fox gulch, along the left limit, the greatest width has been uncovered,

showing a continuous paystreak across the bench channel of 1100 feet. This last spring the benches and hillsides of Lovett gulch and Trail creek have been exploited to a point fully a mile up the left limit of the Klondike river. The point at 61 below and at Poverty bar on the right limit adjoining Nos. 12 and 13 below on Bonanza were first worked in the summer and fall of 1897 or soon after the Skookum claim discoveries. Fully \$5,000,000 has been produced by the Eldorado and Bonanza hillsides and bench claims; a great field for the investment of outside capital on account of their richness and extent.

BOULDER HILL.

Boulder hill, which extends from Boulder creek along the left limit of Bonanza creek to Monte Christo gulch, turned out a heap of gold the past year and ranks next to French hill in the output of the benches.

The order of rank in output of the benches is as follows: Gold hill, Adams hill, French hill and then Boulder hill. French hill has six of the richest benches in the district, but they have been mostly worked out and the balance of the hill did not contain paying claims. So its product will not equal either Gold or Adams hill this year.

The first men to sink holes on Boulder hill were Lee and Baldwin, partners of Lon Griffin upon a lay at 30 below on Bonanza. They prospected early in March, when the snow was deep and the wintry and cold weather was far from propitious for extensive development work. Not meeting with any success, as the holes were sunk below the rim and too far down the hillside, they pulled up their stakes and never recorded the ground. Today they regret the fact that they threw up the chance for a good-sized fortune. Later on, in the fore part of May, J. Ben Lewis, though an invalid from rheumatism and heart trouble, persisted in his faith that the gold in the creek bottom came from the steep hill adjoining No. 30 below, and hired a man to sink a few holes. His partner, C. F. Krickenberg, at the time was confined at the hospital with an attack of scurvy. In the meantime Isaac Gailbraith and James Brown arrived one evening tired and exhausted from packing a hundred pounds each of grub and camping outfit from Dawson. They were new arrivals, eager to make their fortunes, and were willing to dig anywhere. Mr. Lewis gave them shelter for the night at his cabin, as a snowstorm was in progress. Finding that his guests were out on a prospecting trip he told them about the hill back of the cabin and his faith in its richness. They took his advice, staked two hillsides adjoining the upper half of 31 and the lower half of 30 below Bonanza. In a short time they struck pay gravel and rushed to Dawson to record the claims. They ran tunnels and took out big pay dumps last winter and before the cleanups sold the claims to Harry Ash for \$10,000 and \$12,000, reserving the dumps from the sale. They owed their stake in life to Ben Lewis, although after the sale neither had the generosity and foresight to make their benefactor a handsome present.

Henry W. Brown, an old friend of Lewis, left the right limit and began prospecting about this time in the elbow adjoining No. 30 below, where a slide had loosened the gravel on the steep hillside. His first pan showed colors from gravel taken to his cabin in a handkerchief. The first hole of 18 inches yielded 5 cents to the pan, the second

hole, about 50 feet farther up the hill, caught the rim showing 10 and 19 cents in the first and second pans. He drifted 10 or 15 feet and found gravel going 50 cents to the pan. From that time on the news spread quickly and the stampedeers soon had the hillside plastered several rows deep with stakes.

Ben Lewis also was the cause of H. A. Goheen, Bradley and Bob Boynton getting rich hillside claims on this hill. The next winter will witness extensive development work under progress, the steam thawers taking the place of the crude method of slow wood burning to thaw the gravel.

A Claim With Two Paystreaks.

Henry W. Brown, an old Montana and Colorado prospector, and a writer of verse of no mean ability, owns the hillside claim adjoining lower half of No. 31 below Bonanza, and the bench above it on the second tier. This claim has two paystreaks, one on the point just above the creek's side line and the other and main one along the brow of the hill, following the course of the old river bed or gravel reef formed by an inland sea. The development work consists of three tunnels, each about 300 feet in length, starting and ending in pay gravel. There are about 500 feet of side or cross drifts run to block the ground out for future stopping. One shaft, 65 feet in depth, is used for hoisting gravel at the back end of the bench, and also gives ventilation to the underground workings. The pay dirt varies in depth from 15 inches to 3 feet, and extends from the rim to the back and side lines of the claim. The bench above is also in the pay channel, having richer gravel and coarser dust.

George Callaghan owns a bench on the third tier, joining Brown's bench on the uphill side, which is yielding very fine pay gravel. Hence the pay gravel has been uncovered from the rim up hill for a distance of over 700 feet, a fact which will not escape the attention of the wise mining promoter and capitalist. About 20 laymen are at work on the property, all making money, and using six rockers to wash out the fine, shot and coarse dust. Mr. Brown is generous to a fault, a fine specimen of the charitable prospector and frontiersman, who has his latchstring out to his friends and acquaintances at his comfortable cabin upon 30 Bonanza.

Among the Richest Claims.

An associate with Henry Brown as one of the successful pioneers of Boulder hill, J. Ben Lewis, is known far and wide as a kindly prospector and miner, who allows no friend to pass his cabin without a greeting and a cheery invitation to stop and rest and join his partner at the table. His partner, C. F. Krickenberg, is also from Denver, Colorado, a younger man, who listens to the counsels of his gray-haired partner with profit and knowledge to himself. Like Brown's claim, they have two paystreaks on their hillside, and also own the bench above on the second tier. The claims adjoin the upper half of No. 32 below. There is one main tunnel connected with two shafts, each about 57 feet deep. The two other shafts are 32 feet and 76 feet, respectively, the latter sunk near the background and the furthest up the hill. This winter the ground will be developed and the pay gravel extracted by means of a steam thawer and hoisting engine. They have ordered from the outside two 30-horsepower boilers and a large plunger pump to hoist the water on the hill from Bonanza creek for sluicing the large dumps next spring. The largest nugget weighed

\$16.78. Their claims are among the richest on the hill, with pay gravel from the rim to the back line of the bench. Back of their bench, on the third tier, Dan W. Morrisey has sunk a shaft and uncovered a paystreak of coarse dust and nuggets. They are also interested in a bench claim on Magnet hill, upon the third tier opposite Nos. 14 and 15 below, Bonanza. A tunnel 110 feet in length has tapped the paystreak, and a shaft 65 feet deep uncovered the bedrock. J. O. Holen is also interested in the claim. They also own a 100-foot bench upon the fifth tier opposite No. 2 above Bonanza and along the left limit of Big Skookum. Mr. Knickerberger visited Cape Nome this summer with a view to making a purchase, but saw no good opening on account of the lawsuits and adverse titles.

Modern Methods Are Used.

Next to the Lewis claim on the down stream side is the property of H. A. and G. M. Goheen, situated opposite Nos. 32 and 33 below, 250x1000 feet. These two claim owners are energetic and progressive, who believe in working out a claim by modern methods and in as short a time as possible. They have driven from the rim three tunnels in length—225, 350 and 100 feet respectively. From the face of the longest tunnel to the back line it is about 125 feet, all virgin ground. There are also three shafts—two 61 feet each and the third one 56 feet in depth. The pay gravel has been blocked out by numerous cross drifts, and so far very little stopping has been done. This winter a steam thawer will enable them to take out the gold-bearing gravel, beginning at the back line and stowing the waste behind as the men advance toward the rim. The Goheens are old miners from western states, and the gait they have maintained in underground development work will enable them to take most of the pay gravel out by the time the weather will admit of sluicing. The pans from the paystreak range from 25 cents to as high as \$7, taking the gravel without any selection. They also own No. 56 above on Sulphur, which they will have extensively developed this coming winter. Jesse Goheen owns the fraction bench above the hillside, 175x250 feet, which is yielding very rich pay dirt.

Paystreak Extends Over the Bench.

Just around the point made by the watershed of Boulder and Bonanza creeks are the hillside and bench claims of B. B. Smith, A. J. Kroenert, Emil Moody, Paul Fisher and Chris Christensen. They have stripped a portion of the bench, 125 feet in length and 80 feet in width, having a 12-foot face to take down to bedrock. The paystreak runs from one to three feet in depth, and extends over the entire bench, 250x250 feet. A little over half of the ground is untouched. On the hillside there is a 125x125 feet piece of ground at the upper end, which is shallow and well adapted for summer diggings. This winter it is the intention of the management to run two tunnels into the embankment and connect with the shafts on the hill, for ventilation. A double-track tramway will be built to Boulder creek to lower all the pay gravel to the creek for the washup. A steam thawer will be used this winter to hurry along the drifting and stopping.

One of the active partners is A. J. Kroenert, who is part owner of six of the best-producing bench claims on Gold hill. B. B. Smith owns a hillside adjoining 100 below lower on Dominion. All the owners are hard-working men, and with the three rockers have done wonders, when one considers the number of cubic yards of gravel they handled during the past season.

Has Driven Five Tunnels.

Harry C. Ash owns two hillside claims, each 250x1,000 feet, adjoining the lower half of 30 and the upper half of 31 below, on Bonanza. He bought them from I. Gailbraith and James Brown last May for about \$25,000, and has about paid for them out of the proceeds of the claims.

W. B. Ash, his brother, has the active management, and the evidences of his miner-like appliances indicate that his training in the Black hills of South Dakota was not wasted. Five tunnels have been driven from the stripped face, one as far as the back line, a distance of 490 feet. The other tunnels vary in length from 150 to 300 feet. There are cross-drifts every 25 feet, and the main cross-drift along the back line will be the starting point from which the pay gravel will be worked out to the outside face. There are 12 iron-wheel cars, which self-dump into the only steel chute in the district, 325 feet in length, leading to the sluice boxes on Bonanza creek. There are two boilers, 15 and 40-horse-power, respectively, to furnish the steam for the thawers and motive power for hoists, if deemed necessary. A pack train of five horses conveys all supplies from Dawson, and the several log bunk houses and mess house afford ample and comfortable quarters for the 45 men. A three-ounce nugget is the largest found on his claim or on the hill. About one-sixth of the ground has been worked up to date. Harry Ash will work a large force of men on No. 4 below upper Dominion, the same as was done last winter, and duplicate next spring his large cleanups. He also owns two creek claims below lower discovery, Nos. 37 and 39 below on Hunker, and a half in 41 and a fourth in 62 below on the same creek. No. 32 below on Bonanza is also his property.

Tramway in Operation.

On the third tier and back of the hillside claims and first tier of benches is Samuel C. Shepard, who bought a bench from John M. Goheen for a valuable consideration. He is now engaged in sinking a shaft to bedrock, a distance of about 105 feet. He is next to the Morrisey claim on the third tier, which yields about \$40 to every twenty-four buckets of gravel.

Bruce Wearing has a hillside claim next to Goheen's, which he expects will meet his anticipations. He has built a double-track tramway to Boulder creek and lowers all the gravel by means of cars.

Successful Politician and Miner.

On the up-stream side and next to Harry Ash's properties is the hillside claim of William Bradley and F. S. Danham. Mr. Bradley, the locator, is an old-time miner, formerly of Treasure City, Black Hills, South Dakota. He has filled the position of county auditor there for several terms, and was so popular that he could command any office in the gift of the county, and the voters would elect him. Two tunnels have been driven into the hillside from the face, 201 and 230 feet, leaving a block of gravel untouched fully 150 feet to the back boundary line. The tunnels are 70 feet apart with 10 side drifts connecting the tunnels. A shaft, 80 feet in depth, furnishes good ventilation. The paystreak is the same in depth as found on the balance of the hill, the largest nugget weighing \$12.50. Laymen have worked the ground during the past winter and summer with very satisfactory results to themselves. Mr. Bradley is a very modest person, is well educated and unassuming in manner, but withal a man of the world, who is well acquainted with the vicissitudes of mining ventures since 1877. He has had several offers for the purchase of the mine, but so far none have been sufficiently high to induce him to part ownership.

Owners of Other Claims.

Between Bradley's and Danham's and Monte Cristo gulch is the claim of Jackson and J. W. Meyers & Co.'s claims, which have been worked by tunnels. On the point is Schindler and partner, and around the point and up Monte Cristo gulch is the claim of Captain Nichols.

Across the gulch is the property of Edward McConnell, bought from Colonel Haight for \$10,000, and next to it, on the second tier, belongs to Mark Welch, George Manson, Barney Lee and Van Rosen, lately purchased from Pat Flannigan. Pete Mosser also owns a valuable claim on the point.

On the second and third tiers between Monte Cristo and Fox gulches are claims owned by Fred Nelson, O. A. Schultz and A. E. Anderson, H. Kern and D. Jenkins, and William Barr, A. W. Shroft, Dick Heitmann and H. Crofoot.

FOX GULCH.

Fox gulch and its benches for about a year were under a cloud of doubt and bad faith. For some reason the claim owners were not capable managers and prospectors, and in several cases drifted over the paystreak, thinking they had sunk to bedrock when they had stopped at slide or false bedrock. Another good reason that can be offered is the fact that a great deal of the drifting and sinking was done on the benches below the point where the gravel pay channel crosses the gulch in its general trend along the left limit of Bonanza. Their operations were confined too near Bonanza creek, at the channel between American and Fox gulches turns more to the interior or westward; or, to be more explicit, crosses Fox gulch further away from its mouth than it does the other gulches further north. A portion of Fox gulch, several claims from the mouth, has turned out to be very rich, notably discovery and No. 1 above, both creek claims. The benches opposite these claims seem to be located in the middle and richest portion of this gravel channel. At one time this section of the hillside was declared to be barren, but the late developments indicate that the widest paystreak is to be found at Fox gulch, the old channel showing a width of fully 1100 feet, as shown by development work on H. Kern's two hillside, starting from the rim; the next two claims uphill, owned by Robert Highest and Captain R. B. Stedman, making a 1000 feet; and the fifth, the property of Stanley Kuzek, who has uncovered bedrock fully 100 feet wide from the side line.

Successful Claim Owners.

The most successful claim owners on Fox gulch are Robert Highest and Captain R. B. Stedman, who own the hillside claim opposite No. 1 above on the left limit, and also the creek claims discovery and No. 1 above. Captain Stedman is a retired United States army officer, who has figured prominently in mining circles on the Pacific coast. The bench claim was bought from P. Peterson, and has been opened up on an extensive scale. The width of the claim for a distance of 250 feet has been stripped for a depth of 25 feet. The waste gravel has been graded for a distance of fully 75 feet to a stone wall, which holds the gravel from spreading. The paystreak is 4½ feet in depth, which will be opened up by means of tunnels, taking out the pay gravel from the back line and working out to the face. The owners have given four \$1000 with four thawers in order to work the claim this season. Captain Stedman went out to the coast to purchase the thawers and boilers. They have been associated to-

gether since 1907, when they took a lay on No. 7 below on Bonanza and later on sold the dump for its value. The bench was not properly worked last year, and, since their progress made in the stripping, property has raised in that vicinity.

Promising Property.

Opposite Highest and Stedman's claim across Fox gulch is the hillside claim of A. H. Dever, J. L. Hubbard, P. Fitzerald and J. Sheehan, adjoining lower half of No. 1 above. This hillside, 250x750, is a very promising property, the paystreak containing coarse red and gold-bearing gravel the entire area of the claim three feet deep. Nuggets as high as \$18.75 have been taken out, rough in appearance, indicating that they have not traveled far from water action. The development work consists of four tunnels run in from the right bank of Fox gulch, tapping the pay channel from 100 to 150 feet along its general course, which is a great advantage in area of pay gravel over the claims running across the paystreak from the Bonanza limit. There is one shaft to bedrock sunk for ventilation. Steam thawers will be used in an extensive winter's development work, and the large spring paydumps will be sluiced on Fox gulch, a great saving of time over the slow method of rocking. A. H. Dever, one of the fortunate owners, is an employee of the Dawson Daily News.

The other promising claims along Fox gulch hillside are those of Louis Patnaud, Stanley Kuzek and E. Edwards & G. D. Heydlauff.

Rich Bonanza Benches.

Between Fox and American gulches is Ora Fino hill, developed by deep sinking. Among the claim owners who have sunk to bedrock are G. M. Crawford, Dr. Austin, with a shaft down 128 feet, and E. B. Northrup and G. F. Sparks. On American gulch there are several promising hillside and benches. The creek claims are rich, the Laughlin brothers taking out big cleanups last winter and this summer off Nos. 1, 2 and 3. The shafts are scattering between American and Magnet gulches, but on the latter gulch the paystreak has produced a fortune to Frank McGreogor and partner. Along the brow of the hill to Adams the best hillside are opposite from Nos. 10 to 14, inclusive, below, Bonanza.

Right Limit Bench Claims.

Mr. Clark's discovery last fall on the hillside just below the mouth of Lovett gulch at No. 85 below, Bonanza, created quite a stir this spring when his prospects became generally known to the public.

The hillside was soon plastered with stakes and all the available ground recorded. It is a low grade gravel deposit, which will have to be handled extensively to put the property on a paying basis. Clark sold out to the New York company's representatives, who built a flume and started sluicing, only to be stopped by an injunction, as the side lines, officially surveyed, threw the claim into the hands of the next claim owners, J. W. Willison & Co. Trail creek, opposite No. 79 below, Bonanza, has also a string of benches and hillside, which have been developed partially this summer, but the pay is not very extensive and is too low in grade to admit of profitable rocking.

Benches on Point No. 61 Below.

The point adjoining No. 61 below, Bonanza, on the left limit, was first worked in the summer of 1907 by a band of Armenians. Not much attention was paid to the benches until last summer, when W. H. Bard bought in and uncovered the paystreak further back from the rim. During the last summer the ground has been stripped along the rim about 2,000

feet down B. up stream to claim owned out all his in pany.

Summer V. Among the on the end who bought square, from mer. Mr. (old Hill ch J. Kroenert played about top ground into the slu H pumps Bonanza cre plunger pu the motive of slide and ened by vol the crevices The tailings of the hill The four we some profit summer dig again until several ben was one of benches in win on Dom 1908.

Adams, or known far a deucer of the account of double the v on Gold hill come to the excel gold output. Tited, R. B. opened up a on the flat gold product this year on On the McCl of this com and seams surface which sects the mi the conditio hole of Tuol which these At every c gold in the have center pockets for prospector a or raises in here as cro the coarse g along the ri rock does n formation a along the b plentiful. first uncover feet and na with the po hill had be been unrove tier, so that sold at any fall and win in the min night the H Clark, Ben W. Ward, J. M. Hartle, Brown, Bl "Bunch Gra host of oth confied to gravel incre trace from the back lin

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feet down Bonanza below the point and up stream the same distance by various claim owners. Lately Mr. Bari sold out all his interests to an English company.

Summer Washing By Plunger Pump.

Among the prominent mine owners on the end of the point is John Pulver, who bought the property, 350 feet square, from McMillan this past summer. Mr. Pulver lately sold out his Gold Hill claim to Dr. Faulkner and A. J. Kroenert for \$12,000. He has employed about ten men in stripping the top ground and engaged at shoveling into the sluice boxes the past summer. He pumped water on the claim from Bonanza creek for sluicing by a duplex plunger pump, two boilers furnishing the motive power. The bedrock consists of slide and broken up mica chief hardened by volcanic action, the gold filling the crevices for a depth of fully six feet. The tailings were impounded at the foot of the hill by means of a brush dam. The four weeks' run netted him a handsome profit, and the claim is fitted for summer digging work, not commencing again until next spring. He owns also several bench claims on Hunker, and was one of the first to prospect for benches in company with John Goodwin on Dominion in the early spring of 1898.

ADAMS HILL.

Adams, or Che-cha-co hill, has become known far and wide as a wonderful producer of the glittering gold dust. On account of the paystreak being fully double the width of the channel found on Gold Hill, strewed mining men have come to the conclusion that this hill will excel Gold Hill in the aggregate gold output. The Yukon Gold Fields, Limited, R. B. Wood, general manager, has opened up a group of six claims, three on the first and second tiers, which for gold producers have not been excelled this year on any of the bench claims. On the McDonald and Atkinson claims of this company the bedrock is wavy and seamed with a black and scaly surface which runs through and intersects the micaceous slate, the same as the conditions exist on the east mother lode of Tuolumne county, California, in which these dykes are called crossings. At every crossing in that county the gold in the kidney formations seemed to have centered their wealth in very rich pockets for the enrichment of the quartz prospector and miner. These hard spots or raises in the level of the bedrock act here as crossings for the collection of the coarse gold and nuggets. Further along the rim, down stream, the bedrock does not contain this black, slaty formation and hence the gold deposit along the bedrock is not as thick and plentiful. In April, 1898, O. B. Millett first uncovered bedrock at a depth of 20 feet and made known that another hill, with the possibilities of a French or Gold Hill had been found. The paystreak has been uncovered as far back as the third tier, so that properties that could not be sold at any price on the back tier last fall and winter are now in brisk demand in the mining market. In a day and a night the hill was staked by A. H. Clark, Ben Atkinson, J. McDonald, E. W. Ward, J. Clemenson, A. L. Britt, F. M. Hartie, Henry Wagner, James Brown, Billy Mertaugh, known as "Bunch Grass Bill," W. Sarvent and a host of others. The first season was confined to development work, the gravel increasing in value as the distance from the rim was increased toward the back line.

Senator Lynch's Property.

Senator Jeremiah Lynch, author and California mining promoter, is busy as a

beaver in the management of his rich hillside claim on Adams hill. Early this spring he bought the claim from O. B. Millett for \$40,000 cash, and ever since the purchase he has been giving his entire attention and time to taking out rich pay gravel for his monthly dividends. Like all California miners, he believes in large methods to bring ultimately the working expenses down to a minimum, so that he has not hesitated in making a big outlay of money in buying dumping room on the creek for the washing of the gravel through a string of boxes and in the use of a large 30-horse-power steam boiler and thresher. Two tunnels have been run across the paystreak, 350 and 300 feet each, which have uncovered a uniform deposit of pay gravel from 1½ to 4 feet in thickness. A cross-cut has been run along the back line to connect the two tunnels, and from this level the pay gravel will be extracted, sloping out toward the open face and stowing the waste behind to save extra handling and timbering. Two gravel bins, holding 500 cubic feet of pay gravel, are located at the brow and bottom of the hill, connected by a 500-foot gravity car tramway. The pay gravel area is 250 by 350 feet, so that the senator will be kept busy for some time taking out the gold dust.

Senator Lynch did very well last year speculating in merchandise, and is known in the world of literature as the author of "Reflections Upon Egypt," which had a wide sale. He is now, at his leisure, engaged in writing a humorous book on his experiences in the Yukon, which will command attention from the reading public on account of its originality and witicism.

The Yukon Gold Fields, Limited.

The Yukon Gold Fields, Limited, an English mining company, has an able and experienced mining man and manager in the person of R. B. Wood, formerly of Australia and British Columbia. He bought the A. H. Clark, Ben Atkinson, J. McDonald, E. W. Ward, J. Clemenson and A. L. Britt claims, located on Adams hill in two tiers, between Little Skookum and the Ellis and Millett claims. They are each 250x250 feet benches containing the pay gravel of the gold-bearing channel which has made Bonanza benches so famous. The mining representative of the News lately visited the mines on a tour of inspection, looking into the placer resources of the Klondike district, and the order and the arrangement both on top and underground was a pleasing sight after witnessing so many blunders perpetrated by claim owners ignorant of first principles of successful placer mining. Along the rim the bedrock has been stripped for a length of 500 feet and a depth of 100 feet, affording ample room for the building of sleeping quarters, mess room, blacksmith shop and building at the head of the gravity car tramway, 400 feet in length, connecting the two gravel bins. Four tunnels cross the pay gravel for a distance of 400 feet, or within about 60 feet of the back line through which the six cases convey the gravel to the waste dump and bin at the head of the tramway. These four tunnels are connected with cross drifts about every 25 feet, so that the ground is blocked out for stopping and affords good ventilation. There are about 150 feet in drifts and tunnels in the four mines, namely, Ben Atkinson, J. McDonald, J. Clemenson and A. L. Britt. The Clark and E. W. Ward are at the Little Skookum side and have been opened separately by means of tunnels. The pay gravel of these two claims is washed by water led from Little Skookum. The gravel from the first four is washed on Bonanza by water led from the creek in a flume holding five sluiceways. Under the guidance of Foreman E. H. Wood the writer was shown through the tunnels and drifts.

The square timber sets indicated in a moment that the handicraft of a Comstock miner had found its way to the far north. The tunnels and drifts were all lagged at the roof and sides to prevent any caving. The gravel is caught up with timber sets as the workings are extended, the same as is done in loose ground in all quartz mining.

The Yukon Gold Fields, Limited, also own No. 4 below on Bonanza, a piece for dumping ground on No. 1 above, and No. 50 Eldorado, On No. 4 below the claim has been worked by six laymen.

R. B. Wood went to Australia from England when a lad of 16, and was placer mining four years later. His first position as manager was with the Oriental mine, near Bright Pyena, district of Victoria, Australia, which is credited with an output of seven tons of gold. He severed his connection from the company after several years and went to New Zealand. He finally was sent by the present company to West Kootenay, near Nelson, B. C., and given charge of the famous Ymir group of silver and gold mines. From there he was sent here in 1897, first purchasing No. 4 below on Bonanza, which he worked in '97 and '98. He returned to England in August last year and arrived back in Dawson over the ice last March. His attention was called to Adams hill on his return by a friend, and he immediately bought the six bench claims last April in sums ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000 each.

STAMPEDE GULCH.

Stamper gulch is a tributary of Adams creek at No. 18, right limit.

Claim No. 1 was located by Robert G. Walker in December, 1897. Mr. Walker and his partner, William P. Vose, both Tacoma men, prospected the claim the following March, and the first four pans on bedrock yielded \$4.85 in coarse gold. A few of their friends were told of the discovery, and in a few hours the entire gulch was staked and re-taken by stampedeers.

The gulch heads in the vicinity of French hill and the Skookums, and is about one mile in length.

Eight shafts have been sunk to bedrock on claim No. 1, and pay found in all of them. The width of the paystreak has not been determined, but the ground gets better towards the hill, and from the indications the older and richer channel is still further under the hill.

A number of men were employed last winter drifting on No. 1 and prospecting the upper claims on the gulch. The dirt sluiced last spring ran 50 cents to the bucket, and recently from a new shaft Messrs. Walker and Vose panned 20 pans shoveled from the buckets and obtained an average of 70 cents to the pan.

The gold is the coarsest yet found in the district and has a distinctiveness of its own, but resembles somewhat Big Skookum gold. Thirty per cent of the gold runs in nuggets from \$1 to \$18 each, and the finest of the gold is like buckshot with rough corners. The value of the gold has not been determined, but Mr. Walker is taking to Tacoma a sack of dust and nuggets which he will have assayed. Most of the prospect shafts on the upper claims have produced coarse gold, and on No. 8 50 cents to the pan has been found. The distance to bedrock ranges from 10 to 20 feet.

Messrs. Walker & Vose own interests in eight claims on the gulch and have recently bonded several of the claims to English capitalists.

Some of the benches and hillside have been staked, but as yet no prospecting has been done.

With competing water companies in operation, Dawsonites should be abundant; supplied with aqua, and at a reasonable cost.

GOLD HILL BENCHES.

Gold Hill is the richest gem in the cluster of the Klondike's gold-seamed hills. The output for the year is variously estimated at from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000. The paystreak in the fall of '97 and early winter of '98 was thought by experienced mining men to trend from a point opposite No. 2, Eldorado, through the hill to Big Skookum. Under this false impression all the ground across the flat was considered the most valuable; and in consequence the early stakers made the mistake of a lifetime, as this year only shafts sunk over 100 feet in depth, has shown the bedrock to be almost barren and unprofitable for future mining. The later prospectors who staked from Lancaster's property to the north and around the brow of the hill to Big Skookum, were the fortunate locators. Among the first to sink a shaft in this section on the point looking down on No. 4 above, Bonanza, were Robert Hanna, McCrimmons and Moran. They each sank to bedrock, a distance of 10 feet, uncovering the rich paystreak, which has since yielded them a fortune. The news of their strike was not generally known until the spring of '98. A few of their immediate friends were let in on the strike and secured the valuable ground in the immediate vicinity. The pioneer and discoverer of the rich paystreak on Gold Hill was G. A. Lancaster, formerly of Eureka, Humboldt county, California. Arriving here in the summer of 1897, he, in company with his partner Stimson, since deceased, first consulted Skiff Mitchell on No. 1, Eldorado, as to the best plan in which to prospect. The latter, in a haphazard guess, walked out of his cabin and pointed to the hill above him and said: "Try that hill, boys, as the gold in Eldorado came from the hills, and this hill (now Gold Hill) is as good a place as anywhere to sink holes and prospect." Joined by Ed O'Brien and William Hall, also from the same town, they ascended the hill and looked about for a time. Lancaster said: "Here goes, boys," and, throwing up his pick, went to the spot where it struck the ground. The second day he reached bedrock and took out \$50 in coarse gold. The Eldorado kings hearing of the strike were skeptical, and did not take advantage of the finds. Hall and O'Brien, McKee and Stimson, each staked a claim 100 feet square above and below in a direct line from Lancaster's prospect hole. Lancaster took out that fall \$6,000, from a small space of ground. Hall and O'Brien, in the next claim below, rocked out \$4,800. The rush of the few men in the country was so great to other creeks that they paid no attention to Gold Hill at that time. The ground remained open for location fully two months after this strike. Later on, Sylvester McMahon and partner, from Juneau, Alaska, opened a cut and prospected along the rim opposite No. 1, Eldorado. Meeting with only small success, not making wages with a rocker they abandoned the ground, as their cut was on the rim where necessarily the gold dust is fine and in small quantities. Since then, this ground above the cut and on each side is considered the heart and richest portion of Gold Hill. In the spring of '98 there was a rush for property on Gold Hill. The marvelous richness of the Lancaster claim had at last reached the ears of Dawson's famous stampedeers of the winter of '97 and '98. This intrepid band of mushers, during the coldest months of the bitter winter, had stamped up and down the Yukon on a false scent. The fabulous wealth which they had treasured up in their mind's eye on Baker, Ninemile, Ainsley, Mochee, Swede, Reindeer and Rosebud creeks, had proved a mirage for the

exploiting of the wildest mine-schemer. Among the most valuable properties on Gold hill mentioned, which can be justly named as the richest, are the following: G. A. Lancaster, E. Andrews & Co., Dr. G. M. Faulkner, A. J. Kroenert, John Goodwin, John Pulver, Victor & Murray, Thomas Nixon, Capt. Morgan, Reese, Trevarrow Bros., Bob Hannah and Mrs. Elliot's claims.

Among the plungers who have realized the immense richness of the Gold hill claims, Dr. G. M. Faulkner ranks the first. Lately, for \$30,000, he has bought a group of six of the most valuable claims on Gold hill. When the News representative visited Gold hill for the Special Mining Edition the doctor had 20 men robbing the pay gravel from his various mines. He seldom went to his cabin for the night before 10 p. m., as all his time was taken up in cleaning the rockers of the day's output.

A conservative estimate would rank the Lancaster claim as first in the year's gold output, and, in the order named, the following claims rank next: John Goodwin, Trevarrow Bros. and Burton properties.

G. A. Lancaster owns two bench claims on the fourth and fifth tiers opposite No. 2 Eldorado. He built the cabin on Gold hill in the fall of 1907. During that winter he developed the Timson claim (his partner's), and washed with one rocker as high as \$5,000 from his pay dump in one day. The mine has a peculiar formation. It consists of gravel shaken by a slide, intermingled with quantities of finely crushed gold-bearing quartz. The paystreak in places contains coarse gold fully six feet from bedrock. Pans from unselected ground, or an average from the paystreak, often reached the \$60 limit. Selected pans have weighed as high as \$650 in gold dust. Mr. Lancaster is withal a modest man, and seldom talks about the yield of his Aladdin mine.

His foreman, Dave Baker, handled the property last winter in a miner-like manner. Instead of allowing the fires to cave the waste gravel from the roof,

he caught up the ground by the use of square sets and lagging the roof and the sides. Consequently, he did not remove any useless gravel, stowing what he could in the worked-out stopes. Mr. Lancaster, later on, bought his partner's claim, and intends remaining on his property this winter to superintend the development work and leave for his home in California after the cleanup.

Around the hill from Lancaster's property is the famous Trevarrow Bros.' claim. This was purchased by E. E. Andrews, M. A. Howard and company for \$25,000, on July 8, 1899. The property was paid for from the yield in a month's time. Mr. Andrews has had experience in oil well mining among the mines of Pennsylvania. His extensive work there and his experience in handling large bodies of men successfully was not lost in his development work on Gold hill. He used a steam thawer and hoisting machine to thaw and handle the pay gravel. He put on a large force of men to expedite the development work. The old-timers shook their heads and predicted his failure. The results show that the mine last month produced fully \$1,000, and that his net returns made a better showing over the slow methods of wood burning. The depth of paystreak is six feet. It is easy to wash out gravel going \$100 to the pan. An \$80 nugget is the largest found. They hoisted as high as 450 buckets of gravel on a shift, the buckets holding 12 pans. They paid \$30 a cord for wood, and had to haul their water for the five rockers under operation day and night. A circular saw cut all the wood, the mine shutting down on September 9th to prepare for the winter's development work.

Dr. G. M. Faulkner and A. J. Kroenert own the largest group of mines on Gold hill. First purchasing the Tinkham property with its output, they began branching out, and secured the following claims in a group: The Houston, the Swery, the Fay, the Stores and the Trenholm. It is the intention of Dr. Faulkner, a popular club man

and a former resident of Seattle, to operate and carry on the development work for the year by means of adit levels. The water for sluicing will be pumped from Eldorado creek by means of the famous Knowles centrifugal pumps, ordered from the Union Iron Works, of California. Two 20-horsepower boilers will thaw the gravel and loosen the ground for the proposed extension of the two main tunnels. Cars on T-rail tracks will convey the waste and pay gravels to the mouth of the tunnels.

The doctor does not allow the waste gravel to cover his tracks in his advance into the gold-bearing gravel of his mines. He has before him visions of pleasure which he proposes enjoying at the Paris exposition. In his voyage across the "pond" he will have in his company several of his intimate friends to enjoy the sight-seeing in Paris.

Around and down stream from Dr. Faulkner's properties is the property, 100x200, owned by T. Victor, formerly of California, and a late victim of the Cook Inlet stampede, and Hugh Murray, who is well known in the Cassiar and Omineca mining districts of British Columbia. They are situated opposite No. 4 above on Bonanza, between the Erikson and Condon claims, on the sixth and seventh tiers above the creek. They developed the mines by five shafts, running level drifts at convenient distances to block out and stope the gravel to the best advantage. Both being old-time miners, they directed the operations of the laymen, and saw that there was no delay brought about by useless work. The depth of the paystreak varies from one to four feet. The dust is coarse, containing nuggets as high as \$64.40 in value. The pans range from 10 cents to \$5 as an average of the pay gravel. About one-half of the ground has been worked out, yielding the owners a large output of dust. Tom Victor believes in getting action on his wealth, so he is a frequent visitor of the Gold Hill and Dewey hotels at Grand Forks. Many a friend and prospector have him to thank

for a grubstake and a helping hand. Mr. Murray is equally generous, but seldom leaves the hill, as he looks after the management closely.

Thomas Nixon is a lucky mortal. He is not satisfied with one rich bench claim at the mouth of Big Skookum. He started mining in the summer of '97 on a bench opposite No. 2 Skookum, which he staked and reentered. Later on, from the output of his rich bench, he purchased the bench claim adjoining for a valuable consideration. Then followed the purchase of the Sinclair property in May, '99. The News representative found him with his countenance wreathed in smiles, and grunting in contented chuckles. His force of 12 men had the day previous washed out, with seven rockers, \$1,001.80. The men had won the bet by 5 o'clock that day, as the output was over \$1,000—Mr. Nixon betting that they could not equal that sum. They had a margin of \$1.80 over the wagered amount. As a guest of Mr. Nixon, at the Jack King restaurant that night, the writer enjoyed his lavish hospitality in sparkling wine and turkey-breasts and wings, and gleaned some idea of the marvelous wealth sprinkled through the slide rock of the benches at the point of intersection between Big Skookum and Bonanza creeks. He has in a block six claims, three each on the first and second tiers, making a group of the most valuable ground adjoining Big Skookum. Two days previously he purchased the famous Neil Peterson bench claim for a large sum, which the writer was unable to learn. Presented to view was the face about 150 feet in length and 9 feet in depth, interspersed with coarse and fine gold dust. There is no bench property in the Klondike district that will equal this point for the width of the paystreak and its average gold-bearing product. The pay will average \$1 to the pan and has a face of 800 feet in extent by 200 feet in depth. Mr. Nixon will go out on the last boat, bound for his home in Colorado, having in his possession one of the largest pokes taken out by the bench mine kings.

Grand Forks and Environs.



THE town of Grand Forks, resting on the right limit of Bonanza just below the mouth of Eldorado and under the brow of Gold hill, has a population of about 1,000. There are fully 400 cabins, frame houses and large buildings in the town. It has been growing rapidly since the beginning of spring. Shrewd business men have begun to realize that it will eventually become an important center for the transportation of mining supplies to the various benches in the vicinity and further away to the outlying creeks.

Among the men who have sized up the situation, Max Endleman, one of the proprietors of the Gold Hill hotel and store, has made the most extensive investments. Besides the two already-mentioned buildings, he owns a strip along First avenue of 1,000 feet, and extending up the hill the length of the Elsie claims. He purchased all the mineral rights from the government, so that he has virtually the control and title to this ground, and will blossom out in the future as the largest landed proprietor of Dawson's neighboring town.

Among the prominent hotels the Gold Hill and Dewey easily take first place. The Blanchard and Garvey hotels are smaller, but have very comfortable quarters for the accommodation of guests. Among the prominent stores

are those owned by Max Endleman, George Apple and Bert Shuler, namely, the Gold Hill, the A. S. Blanchard and that of T. H. Brooks & Co., Thomas J. Kearney, T. M. Fletcher and S. Smith, Ferguson & Ekridge, Avery, A. M. Britt, and Mrs. A. Primus. Two blacksmith shops, four butcher shops, two barber shops, several saloons, the Eldorado and Butler house occupy the principal positions in the busiest portion of the town. John Bonfield conducts the largest saloon, apart from those contained in the hotels. Fred Fay has the largest butcher shop in town, located in the Gold Hill store in the rear. He delivers his meats in the vicinity of Eldorado and Bonanza and on Gold, Adams and Skookum hills. The first cabins were built in the spring and summer of '97. Among the largest buildings first constructed were the Blanchard House and the Grand Forks hotel, last owned by Miss B. A. Mulrone. Until the building of the Gold Hill and Dewey hotels they were the only large buildings during that time. The Butler log building remained idle for over a year, partly built, and was finished this spring for occupation. The White House, now called Garvie hotel, was finished in the winter of '97-'98, and first occupied as living quarters for miners. In the spring of '98 Mrs. White, formerly of San Francisco, purchased the building and turned it into a hotel. These are the principal large buildings of this burg. The news stand, owned by William

Abbott and G. B. Curtis, fills a long-felt want, as a printer would say, in furnishing the outside and local papers, periodicals and magazines for the perusal of the general public.

The Tent restaurant is a novelty in its way, but winter has driven it into more secure quarters.

The police station is under the efficient management of Sargent Marshall. In his detachments are constables F. Candie, J. Aird, T. Browning, F. Lewis, S. H. Goodall and R. Rhodes, the efficient cook.

Since it is proposed by Thomas O'Brien, of Klondike City, in company with Montreal capital, to extend an electric or steam railroad from Dawson to the Forks, the future growth and population of Grand Forks is a matter for careful consideration, as its position next to a territory which produced last year fully \$4,000,000 of the Klondike's output, may place this center as a flourishing competitor with Dawson for the miner's trade.

The Gold Hill hotel building, an enlargement of the Grand Forks, is owned by Max Endleman. The hotel business is shared by William Emerson Bert Shuler and Max Endleman. Lately the interior has been repapered and pointed throughout, so that the office, saloon and lodging rooms are neat and attractive. It has 20 rooms on the second floor for the accommodation of guests, and eight rooms on the third floor, besides a large room for cots. The build-

ing is 40x70, with an addition for a hall 30x50, to be built on the saloon end. H. W. Leonard is the caterer and efficient manager of the restaurant department. The Sunday dinners, containing chicken and turkey among the dishes and other delicacies afforded by the markets, are patronized by a large number of the residents.

The Dewey Hotel, completed and occupied April 1, 1899, cost, including the furniture, \$25,000. It is two and one-half stories high, 72x34, built of logs. It has lately been upholstered and decorated throughout, so that its old appearance is not familiar. E. B. Hill first owned the Gold Hill store building, then a hotel, and later on sold it to William Emerson and Ed Bartlett. His building operations were instrumental in giving the town its subsequent building boom. Byron Barlow, the contractor in the construction of the Port Orchard United States government dry-dock on Puget sound, is the manager. W. S. Levens was formerly connected with the Warshaw Hotel, the largest one in Baker City, Oregon, costing \$60,000. Mr. Dewey, besides being interested in a butcher shop, furnishing 300 beef cattle to the miners last winter, owns with Mr. Barlow No. 32 below upper and 64 below lower Dominion, No. 2 Big Skookum bench, right limit, and other claims, producing at the cleanup this year, according to his statement, \$175,000.

The Blanchard Hotel is the property

of A. S. building, people. T. of Mrs. W. lady, who wants of a pioneer since 1887, with the creek district. Garvie's caravans, Garvie, has so that he is a reasonable man, has been in following in Kent, charge of a

Miners. T. D. with the T. Yukon district promoter, has acquired slides and Hunker. The summer and prevail bankers and take an interest in a close stock manager. The summer he what had been his various annual reports company's claims below limit hillside. \$1. 85. 84. Hunker the limit, hillside; No. side, Bonanza left limit, be Gold hill, and Nos. 1 and 2 No. 61 on Alreka, and by and Interpe

These hillsides, pe Dominion, very valuable extensive exploration. The Montreux, talized, and the development scale: able that no thawers and search for the Macfarlane's greater participation in the Klondike of men will claims, chain active content documents capitalists to stock companies parties, he d

Among the and dining worthy of it. It is the Oak which is by equipped eat of Seattle. merchants a room, and beneath its roof parties. John L. T. with the best Adjoining eat and co Yukon, who standard br

of A. B. Blanchard, a two-story log building, having accommodations for 50 people. The management is in charge of Mrs. Wilson, a petite and winsome lady, who is ever ready to look after the wants of her guests. Mr. Blanchard is a pioneer of the Yukon, residing here since 1887, and was formerly connected with the mines at Forty-Mile and Birch creek districts.

Garvie's Hotel is one of the popular caravansaries. The proprietor, A. Garvie, has in connection a pack train, so that he saves the expense of the middleman's profit, giving the benefit in reasonable charges to his guests. He has been in the Klondike for two years, following mining, and formerly resided in Kent, Washington, where he had charge of a dairy.

Mines of a Montreal Company.

T. D. Macfarlane, formerly connected with the Timber and Land office of the Yukon district, is an enterprising mine promoter. Since his arrival in 1898 he has acquired a number of very rich hill-sides and benches on Dominion and Hunter. Upon his visit to Montreal in the summer of 1898 he was sought for and prevailed upon to allow several bankers and capitalists in Montreal to take an interest in the claims, organize a close stock corporation and elect him manager. Upon his return here this summer he made a hasty inspection of what had been done by the laymen on his various properties, and sent an annual report of the claims' workings. His company possesses 73 and 73b creek claims below lower Dominion, and left limit hill-sides adjoining 75, 76, 77, 78, 81, 82, 84 and 85 below lower. On Hunter they own No. 14 above, left limit, hillside; No. 6 below, right limit, hillside; No. 20 below, left limit, hillside, Bonanza. Also hill-sides 36 and 37, left limit, below Bonanza; No. 4 bench, Gold hill, and two benches on Eldorado; Nos. 1 and 2a, Irish gulch; creek claims No. 61 on All Gold, No. 5 below on Eureka, and hydraulic concessions on Mayo and Independence creeks.

These properties, the benches and hill-sides, particularly on Bonanza and Dominion, give promise of becoming very valuable mining properties for extensive exploiting by large companies. The Montreal company is heavily capitalized, and is in a position to handle the development work on a very extensive scale; hence it is more than probable that next year will witness steam thawsers and hoisting engines in the search for the precious gold dust. Mr. Macfarlane is now in Montreal for the greater part of the winter, making arrangements for the purchase and transfer to the Klondike of a large consignment of hydraulic and placer mining machinery. In that event, a large force of men will be employed upon these claims, changing this district into a very active center. He was offered big inducements by responsible Wisconsin capitalists to transfer his property to a stock company, but since he had made previous arrangements with Montreal parties, he declined the offer.

One of the Finest.

Among the many eating houses, cafes and dining halls, there is one that is worthy of more than a passing notice. It is the Cafe Royal, on Second avenue, which is by far the most handsomely equipped establishment of its kind north of Seattle. Visitors, mine owners and merchants make it a place of popular resort, and many a genial hour is passed 'neath its roof by dining and banqueting parties. The gentlemanly proprietor, John L. Timmins, provides his guests with the best of everything obtainable.

Adjoining the dining room is the neatest and coolest sample room in the Yukon, where can be had the choicest standard brands of wines, liquors and

cigars. It will pay the visitor, the mining man or merchant to sample any of the many good things to be found at this select establishment.

We wish to impress the fact upon our readers that a man of J. L. Timmins' enterprise and business acumen is, strictly speaking, entitled to the patronage of the public-spirited citizens, and were it not for lack of space we would like to devote more matter to the pride of Dawson, the Cafe Royal.

The B. L. & K. N. Company's Steamers.

The Bennett Lake and Klondike Navigation company has given an excellent river service between Dawson and the White Horse rapids. The Ora and Flora have been very successfully navigated on the upper Yukon by Captain Martineau of the Flora, and Waugh of the Ora. In fact, Captain Martineau took desperate chances last spring in following the ice jam closely as it broke with the opening of spring. He took the chances upon the request of the passengers, who were anxious to land in Dawson on the earliest boat. This year the steamers have not been delayed on account of accidents or stranded on the bars, so that the line has won a good name with the traveling public for prompt and reliable transportation. The company was started in Victoria by a small syndicate comprising Messrs. Ratzenberg, Fall, Sallet, Holland and one or two others. The boats were constructed at Wheaton river, which empties into Bennett lake, from lumber saved in the woods by the company's sawmill. The machinery, which was manufactured by the Allison Iron Works of Victoria, was brought over the pass at a great cost. The two steamers were among the first to pass the White Horse successfully. The amount of freight and quantity of goods handled last year can be better realized by those who were in Dawson when this company was practically the carrier line, but which cannot be so easily described to those unacquainted with the condition of things. The boats ran the entire season in conjunction with the Nora on the upper river and lakes, without a hitch or accident, and had to turn away a great number of applicants for passage. The wind-up of a successful season was brought about by the Ora leaving Dawson on the 20th of October, 1898, and I under the most trying difficulties reaching the White Horse after ten days' passage, the passengers reaching Skagway on the 3d of November. This year the steamers have been improved and made more comfortable for the convenience of passengers, and nothing could be more general than the satisfaction expressed by the public who have traveled on these boats. From now on this season, when the water is low and navigation difficult, the public can be assured that on account of small draught of water and size of steamers, there is a greater degree of safety and a saving of time not to be expected from boats of a heavier draught. Mr. H. C. Flockton, general manager, who visited Dawson this summer, was always ready to give any information or assistance to intending shippers in his customary courteous manner. George Parsons, the local agent, was industrious in his attentions to the various duties of his office and made a very favorable impression with the patrons of his line. It is the intention of the company to build larger steamers for the upper Yukon next year, especially constructed for speed and light draught, so that the time will be shortened fully one-third between Dawson and the White Horse.

During the past six months Dawson has grown from a tented mining camp to a city of goodly proportions. The many large and substantial buildings recently erected have added greatly to the appearance of the metropolis of the Klondike.

GOLD HILL HOTEL

EMERSON, SHULER & ENDELMAN, Prop'rs.

Up-to-date service, comfortable and easy fixtures. No expense spared to make all equipments of a first-class hotel the very best.

Dining room service under the management of H. W. LEONARD, an experienced caterer.

Office and saloon respectable and conducted with the view of pleasing guests and affording privacy.

Larger hall extension for public gatherings and entertainments.

EMERSON, SHULER & ENDELMAN,

GRAND FORKS

The Dewey Hotel

ROOMY
ELEGANT
COMFORTABLE

HILL & LEVENS, PROPRIETORS

Newly renovated and furnished with the choicest Furniture and Carpets obtainable in the Yukon, American and European plans. Our object is to please and accommodate, no matter what the cost. The service is up-to-date and modern in all its equipments.

BYRON BARLOW, Manager

GRAND FORKS

Garvie's Hotel

Service Unexcelled

Rates the Lowest

THE FORKS

Lodging	\$1.00
Meals	1.50
Regular Board, per week	25.00

Annex for ladies, private and respectable, next to hotel. Mrs. Garvie presides over the lodging and meal service. Bar with best wines, liquors and cigars. Stop here and see for yourself. A. GARVIE, Proprietor

Modern Grocery Store

DAWSON PRICES
WITH PRICE OF
FREIGHT ADDED

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T. H. BROOKS & CO., PROPRIETORS

Small margins and quick sales is the way we do business.

STORE STOCKED WITH FRESH AND FIRST GRADE

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS

No shelf-worn goods handled, as the miser wants the best we have it. Call and see us

ALL
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Fresh and Guaranteed

Second Avenue Grocery

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Goods delivered to all parts of the creek; if not satisfied with order, it can be returned. No trouble to show provisions, as we are here to please our patrons. Give us a call.

SECOND AVENUE

GRAND FORKS

Gold Hill Butcher Shop

Order a juicy steak and don't go hungry for something good to eat

LOCATED IN THE GOLD HILL GROCERY STORE

Fresh Pork, Beef, Mutton and Poultry in Season.

Delivered by horse to all parts of Bonanza and Eldorado creeks in the vicinity of the Forks.

BEef SLAUGHTERED AT OUR OWN YARD.

FRED FAY, PROP., GRAND FORKS

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The King of the Klondike.



ALEX. McDONALD is the largest mine owner in the Klondike and Indian River mining districts. Reaching Dawson in the fall of 1896 from his claim in the Fortymile district, he immediately struck up Bonanza and Eldorado to look over the various prospects. Learning from several of his friends what the prospect holes were yielding, he began purchasing Eldorado property. From the returns on Nos. 27 and 32 Eldorado he purchased property early in the winter of 1897 above and below in the vicinity of Discovery on Hunker. From the proceeds of his early investments and year's purchases on Eldorado, Upper Bonanza and Hunker in the early winter of '97 he began buying claims on Dominion and Sulphur. At that time properties on Dominion and Sulphur could be bought for small sums. He purchased desirable claims for from \$1,000 to \$2,500 each. The original locators had lost faith in their own properties, and, desiring grub, sacrificed their mining interests. After making a tour of Dominion in the bitter cold months of December and the fore part of January, he crossed over to Sulphur and began picking up claims at nominal figures, so that at the present time he owns on Sulphur and has interests in the following claims:

Above Discovery—Nos. 27, 30, 35, 38, 32, 34, 29, 27, 15, 14, 13, 11, 10, 8, 7 and discovery.

Below—3B, 5A, 7A, 16, 26, 36, 46, 47 and 48.

Of these claims, 13, 11, 10, 8 above, and 7A, 16, 26, 36, 46, 47 and 48 below have been only slightly worked. The most development work has been done on 36, 31 and 29 above. The laymen on 29 above struck the paystreak on the left limit in January. The paystreak was found to be wide of good depth and the gold uniformly distributed through the gravel. The cleanup of this claim last spring was 6,554 ounces; the laymen this summer, on ground that had been partially worked by last winter's laymen, in five weeks' time, yielded 1,336 ounces. The depth of this paystreak is from four to six feet, two and one-half feet being in gravel, the balance consisting of clay and ground-up bedrock. The width of the paystreak has not been determined. On No. 36 drifting was extended for over 100 feet across the creek bed, the ends of the cross drift being in pay gravel. The workings were extended 121 feet up and down the creek. This work was done this summer, with the aid of steam-thawers.

S. J. Stiles, an old Colorado miner and associate with Alex. McDonald in several of his mining interests, shares equally with him in the ownership of 36. He has charge of all the development work upon Alex. McDonald's mining claims, both on Dominion and Sulphur. His capable management of No. 36, Eldorado, in the summer sluicing of '98, fairly demonstrated that he was a thorough placer miner, and is conversant with labor-saving methods by which mining has become a science. It was generally conceded by the claim owners of Eldorado that his drain ditch and mode of sluicing were superior to any other work done that year on the creek. His value as a partner and executive ability in handling mines and men became a fact in the estimation of Alex. McDonald. So from that time on he has become one of the chief mining superintendents in the employ of Alex. McDonald. His summer work on 36 above, Sulphur, has added to his reputation as a capable

man. He employed on 36 above 12 men underground and six men on top to handle the mine's work. A double-compartment shaft was sunk to bedrock, a distance of 60 feet. It was timbered and lined with guides for the cage the same as obtains in quartz mining. With an improvised hoisting gear and chair frame work for the resting of the cage, gravel was handled in wheelbarrows the same as cars filled with ore on the Comstock of Nevada. The engineer hoisted about 600 wheelbarrows in 10 hours' shift. In the day and night shift fully 1,200 wheelbarrows were raised and dumped into a gravity tramway, connecting with the sluice-boxes set along the creek bed. The gear was capable of hoisting 1,000 wheelbarrows in 10 hours, but this amount is more than the sluicehead could handle. The wheelbarrow used held 15 pans of gravel. The three boilers, with a combined 30-horse power, furnished the steam for the 15 points used and for the motor power in connection with the hoisting gear. The shafts were six feet two inches by eight feet two inches in the clear. The cars on the tramway handle the gravel from the platform, which receive the contents of the wheelbarrows, so that there is no delay or extra expense entailed in the conveyance of the pay gravel from the shaft to the sluice-boxes. It is the intention of Mr. Stiles to introduce an innovation in the line of winter sluicing on No. 36 above. To overcome the cold and frost he will build a long log building to cover the sluice-boxes and settling tanks. The water will be pumped from the mines and led into a feed tank. A coil of steampipe will reduce the temperature of the water and keep it from freezing. The gravel will be dumped into a chute leading into the sluicebox. At the end of the sluicebox a movable iron grizzly will receive the coarse gravel and pieces of bedrock. The finer sand and gravel washing away in the tailbox to the creek bed below. The coarse gravel and bedrock will be removed by cars from the grizzly. A part of the water will be dumped from the sluicebox into large receiving tanks for the retention of sluicing water. Coils of steampipe will be placed in these tanks also. By means of these tanks the sluice water will be used over and over again, the sediment settling in extra tanks. A fan reversed would draw the warm air around the boiler to the further end of the sluicebox shed so as to maintain an even temperature in the interior. The prominent miners hold favorable and adverse opinions to the feasibility and success of winter sluicing, but Mr. Stiles is willing to take a chance that he will overcome the great obstacle, Jack Frost, who has prevented others from the mere thought of trying such an undertaking. It will be a great advance in the profits of Klondike mining if winter sluicing can be introduced with success and at a low cost; because it will place the placer mines on a paying basis the year round, doing away with the waiting upon spring cleanups for the payment of the men and liquidation of expenses. This coming winter a number of the claims on Sulphur, including 36, will be worked by the day-wage system. The balance or greater number will be given out on 50 per cent lays. All the properties of Mr. McDonald on Sulphur will be worked with steam thawers. It is the intention of the management to push the work and endeavor to work out the claims as quickly as possible. Mr. McDonald believes in results, and takes a different policy from other claim owners who are doing not much more than representation work, pinning their faith upon the

government revising the mining laws and reducing the 10 per cent royalty tax. The output of Nos. 29 and 36 above has encouraged mine owners on Sulphur. The Klondike Development company is following the footsteps of Mr. McDonald at a rapid gait, and their development work will second his efforts in showing what Sulphur can do under extensive and favorable management.

Alex. McDonald, besides working several of his properties on Sulphur, had a force of men on Nos. 12, 13, 36 and 37, Eldorado, engaged in summer sluicing. These claims produced a very large output of gold; in fact, exceeding the yield of the two previous years. Nos. 13 and 36 are considered among the richest on Eldorado. On Hunker his mining interests were extensively worked. Summer sluicing was done on 2a, 3 and 6 below discovery. This ground is the richest part of Hunker creek. On Bonanza, 6 below was extensively sluiced and the paystreak located. On Nos. 36 and 37, Eldorado, the past two seasons have witnessed an extensive development work during the summer months. The ground in that section is shallow, which made it favorable for ground sluicing, so that the expenses were cut in half over the amount expended in winter. On Dominion there was a little development work done on some of the claims performed in the nature of prospecting work, as the ground is too deep to admit of profitable summer sluicing. The same rule holds on Sulphur creek, where the bedrock is from 30 to 60 feet under the surface. It is the intention of Alex. McDonald to introduce a larger number of thawers upon all his properties and carry on a larger scale of operations than ever attempted in the two preceding years.

The following is a complete list of his mining interests and claims in the Yukon country:

No. of Claim	Creek	No. of Claim	Creek
9, or Discovery	Bottom	17	Upper Dominion
10, or Discovery	Bottom	18	Upper Dominion
11, or Discovery	Bottom	19	Upper Dominion
12, or Discovery	Bottom	20	Upper Dominion
13, or Discovery	Bottom	21	Upper Dominion
14, or Discovery	Bottom	22	Upper Dominion
15, or Discovery	Bottom	23	Upper Dominion
16, or Discovery	Bottom	24	Upper Dominion
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18, or Discovery	Bottom	26	Upper Dominion
19, or Discovery	Bottom	27	Upper Dominion
20, or Discovery	Bottom	28	Upper Dominion
21, or Discovery	Bottom	29	Upper Dominion
22, or Discovery	Bottom	30	Upper Dominion
23, or Discovery	Bottom	31	Upper Dominion
24, or Discovery	Bottom	32	Upper Dominion
25, or Discovery	Bottom	33	Upper Dominion
26, or Discovery	Bottom	34	Upper Dominion
27, or Discovery	Bottom	35	Upper Dominion
28, or Discovery	Bottom	36	Upper Dominion
29, or Discovery	Bottom	37	Upper Dominion
30, or Discovery	Bottom	38	Upper Dominion
31, or Discovery	Bottom	39	Upper Dominion
32, or Discovery	Bottom	40	Upper Dominion
33, or Discovery	Bottom	41	Upper Dominion
34, or Discovery	Bottom	42	Upper Dominion
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38, or Discovery	Bottom	46	Upper Dominion
39, or Discovery	Bottom	47	Upper Dominion
40, or Discovery	Bottom	48	Upper Dominion
41, or Discovery	Bottom	49	Upper Dominion
42, or Discovery	Bottom	50	Upper Dominion
43, or Discovery	Bottom	51	Upper Dominion
44, or Discovery	Bottom	52	Upper Dominion
45, or Discovery	Bottom	53	Upper Dominion
46, or Discovery	Bottom	54	Upper Dominion
47, or Discovery	Bottom	55	Upper Dominion
48, or Discovery	Bottom	56	Upper Dominion
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78, or Discovery	Bottom	86	Upper Dominion
79, or Discovery	Bottom	87	Upper Dominion
80, or Discovery	Bottom	88	Upper Dominion
81, or Discovery	Bottom	89	Upper Dominion
82, or Discovery	Bottom	90	Upper Dominion
83, or Discovery	Bottom	91	Upper Dominion
84, or Discovery	Bottom	92	Upper Dominion
85, or Discovery	Bottom	93	Upper Dominion
86, or Discovery	Bottom	94	Upper Dominion
87, or Discovery	Bottom	95	Upper Dominion
88, or Discovery	Bottom	96	Upper Dominion
89, or Discovery	Bottom	97	Upper Dominion
90, or Discovery	Bottom	98	Upper Dominion
91, or Discovery	Bottom	99	Upper Dominion
92, or Discovery	Bottom	100	Upper Dominion

Besides his many mining interests he is one of the heaviest investors in Dawson realty and building improvements. He owns among his many buildings the Chisholm block, Bank of British North America building, the McDonald hotel, and his office building. Mr. McDonald presented to the Catholic congregation their present church, a two-story building built of logs and handsomely finished in the interior at a cost of \$30,000. Last winter Mr. McDonald spent the greater part of his time in Great Britain, meeting the lady of his choice in the person of Miss Chisholm, whom he married after a short acquaintanceship. He is energetic, has great faith in the future of the mining interests of the Yukon, and is by all odds the heaviest investor

in the placer claims in the district. His business keeps him busy from morning till night, and though he is called King of the Klondike he is approachable in all affairs socially and financially as the humblest miner in the Yukon.

Sulphur's Paystreak Established.

Sulphur creek is one of the most important gold-producing creeks of the Indian River mining district. It takes its source from the Dome, and empties into Indian River, a distance of 30 miles. Development work has shown that the best paying section lies between No. 65 above and 60 below, covering a distance of 14 miles. It was due to the indefatigable efforts of J. G. Hunter and F. A. Moore, old-time Colorado prospectors, who had been associated together for 20 years, that Sulphur creek eventually attracted the attention of prominent mining men, among whom was Alex. McDonald and W. G. Gates, the latter known to fame as "Swiftwater Bill." The first parties on the creek were Ross and partners, who in the fore part of '97 sank several holes in the creek bed and later on, meeting with poor success, deserted the creek. Then followed a party, consisting of J. Cornack, R. McNeil, N. Poulson and D. Hetherington. They prospected from the head to near Discovery claim, but did not record. During this time F. G. Hunter, F. A. Moore, Ed. Whittemore and George Hummel were sluicing at the mouth of Quartz creek. Hearing of the strike on Dominion, they joined the rush in the latter part of June, 1897, but were too late to stake on a desirable location. Moore and Whittemore inquired about Sulphur creek, and finding that gold had been found in the creek bed by Ross, left Dominion and began prospecting on Sulphur. They staked and recorded 12 and 13 above. Later on Hunter and Hummel joined their partners, and staked 14 and 15 above. During that fall they sold their two last claims to Alex. McDonald and Ed. Lawin. Digging a drain ditch, they worked the creek bed on No. 14, finding high bedrock about eight feet from the surface. Their prospects were encouraging, so they returned to the diggings on Quartz creek and carried over eight sluice boxes to the Sulphur claim. That fall they worked out in the creek bed a strip 12 feet wide by 60 feet in length, yielding \$1,700 in gold, the output averaging \$16.20 to the man. The discoverers, Andy Olsen, Alex. Stafford, Charley Needling and C. Biggs, located what is known as Discovery and No. 2 above. Later on they dropped Discovery and recorded Nos. 2 and 11 above, two of the parties reserving their right for future location. Discovery party and the party of Moore and Hunter, comprising eight men, had the creek to themselves for two months in the fall of 1897, few people in Dawson knowing the extent of their discovery. Later on W. G. Gates staked and recorded discovery. The first year practically little development work was done on this creek. Last year and winter the laymen and owners wasted the greater part of the working season trying to locate the paystreak. It was in the fore part of 1899, or in January, that the laymen on No. 29 above located the paystreak next to the left limit. Alex. McDonald, on No. 29, and Moore and Hunter, on No. 12 above, caught the paystreak along the left bank about the same time. This changed the aspect of affairs on the creek and encouraged all the mine owners and laymen.

The Dawson Daily News leads; other papers try to follow, but fail to do so.

Sluicing on Hunker Creek.



HE first stream upon which development work centered after the locations made on Bonanza and Eldorado was Hunker Creek. The first year during the winter of '96 and '97 about discovery, claims made a very fair output. The following year the claim owners and laymen were not so successful in locating the pay streak, and it was not until last winter's work that the mining world began to realize that Hunker ranked next to Bonanza and Eldorado in the richness of its pay streak. Andy Hunker made the discovery in the fall of '96, and today it is considered the richest claim on the creek. In company with his partner Johnson, they had traveled some distance up the creek meeting with very little success in panning. They had about given up the day's work when they reached the elbow or turn of the present run of the creek, when Andy Hunker noticed the bedrock cropping out in the creek bed. He started to take a pan of gravel and Johnson called to him to come along, as he did not care to wait longer for supper. The first pan he found 50 cents, the second pans going \$1.00 and \$1.50 each, respectively. They immediately staked the ground, claiming discovery. Bob Henderson, Tom Dalton, the Barton Brothers and Frank Swanson left Gold Bottom where they were mining, and each located a claim. The news spread, and in a few days the creek was all staked by the stampedeers from Dawson. This summer gold pay gravel has been found on the right hand fork, where the ground was extensively ground sluiced. The claim owners carried on extensive summer sluicing this year in the immediate vicinity of discovery claim, and on other points along the creek. The best hillsides are adjoining 34 and 35 below on the right and left limits, along the left limit of the Government concession near the mouth, for several claims above Last Chance, opposite 23 and 24 below, left limit, and the benches opposite from 5 to 11 below on the brow of the hill, right limit. The benches opposite 7 and 8 below, right limit, and the hillsides adjoining 34 and 35 below, left limit, are the richest on the creek.

Discoverer of the Creek.

Andrew Hunker, the discoverer of Hunker creek, located Discovery and No. 1 above on September 6, 1896. He worked in and held the property until May, 1899, and sold it for a large sum to Tom Kirkpatrick, Dr. Bonner and Company. He only employed a few men in summer sluicing, and worked out only thirty or forty feet on the pay streak. These claims are the richest on Hunker, the ground averaging about a thousand dollars per lineal foot. The selling price of the property was \$165,000. He still owns 13 and 13A above on Hunker, and will work these properties next summer. He arrived in the Yukon country in 1895, via Juneau, reaching Forty-Mile Post on July 4, 1895. Reading of the Klondike strike he started for Dawson, reaching his destination on August 21, 1895. In company with his partner Johnson he went up Bonanza, visited Discovery claim, and then struck out on Cornack's Fork and crossed over the ridge into Last Chance. Going down Last Chance he ran across Hunker creek and began prospecting at favorable places up stream. After prospecting about ten miles along the creek, taking up four days, he arrived on Discovery claim on the evening of Sept. 5. Seeing the high bedrock in the bed of the creek just be-

low the large bend, he began panning and took out \$22.75 in about two hours. Next day he staked and returned by way of Bonanza en route to Forty-Mile to record, as, at that time, this place was the headquarters of Captain Constantine, the gold commissioner. As soon as the news leaked out there was a stampede to Hunker, and all available ground was taken from the mouth to the headwaters. Andy Hunker is one of those old-time California prospectors. When he arrived in the Klondike, unlike the other stampedeers, he began blazing his own pathway over the divide to an unknown stream which he named Hunker. Realizing that all the available ground had been staked on Bonanza and Eldorado, he struck out for himself, and in a few days picked out a claim whose equal is only found in the richest spots of Eldorado. Andy Hunker never forgets his friends, and a number of his old-time partners owe to him a start in the Klondike. He spends the greater part of the winter in California, visiting his home in the Eastern States during the spring. Fame Rumor has it that Andy is becoming tired of single blessedness, and is going to become a benedict in the near future.

A Wealthy English Syndicate.

The Klondike Bonanza Company, Ltd., capitalized at £150,000, has been operating extensively on No. 5 and 5A below Hunker. The popular resident manager, L. J. Macfarlane, has been superintending operations on various properties of the company during the past summer, and departed in September for London, England, to make his annual report to the company and arrange for the shipment of machinery for a more extensive working of the Hunker claims next year.

Following is a list of the directors of the company: Chairman, Lieut.-Col. MacGeorge; A. Fell, L. Zimmermann, C. Ellingworth, J. Hughes and J. Joseph; secretary, P. Samson; offices Worcester House, Walbrook, London; manager, Lewis J. Macfarlane; assistant manager, H. Temple Fall.

The principal properties of the company are as follows: Fraction 5A and 5 below on Hunker, 24A, 23A, and 23 above on Bonanza, all of which are rated as rich properties on these two creeks. The company has other interests on Hunker, Sulphur, Lower Bonanza and French Hill, which as yet have not been developed, although located in desirable districts.

No. 5 below on Hunker has been developed more than the other property, work commencing in the month of July, 1896. It paid a dividend of 5 per cent. in 1898, and will yield an increased dividend of 10 per cent. this year. Five below on Hunker during the three weeks of development work, paid royalty on \$25,970, and on 5A below on Hunker for the short time worked, paid royalty on \$39,610. Mr. Macfarlane bought these properties on Hunker in 1898, making a very reasonable bargain, as at that time the value of properties on Hunker creek had not reached the high figure. During the summers of 1898 and 1899 on Fraction 5A below on Hunker, a space of ground on the creek bed 300 feet in length, with a width of 160 feet at the lower end and 65 feet on the upper side, has been stripped and sluiced to bedrock. The output this year was \$45,000 up to closing of the season. This claim last year in a month's run produced \$90,000. Where the ground was stripped the bedrock was very favorable for the lodgment of gold, making it one of the rich spots on Hunker creek. No. 5 below has been stripped for a distance of

125 feet from the lower end, the width being 100 feet down stream side, and 50 feet at the other end. In running the drain cut, high bedrock or a dyke was encountered along the right limit. Along near its base the gold lodged in large bunches, swelling the clean-up during the time the gravel and gold was creviced from the ridges. As high as \$78 to the shovel was found in this pocket. In the latter part of September Mr. H. Temple Fall, the superintendent, had closed sluicing operations for the year, and had his men engaged in ground sluicing the top muck to prepare the piece of ground for next season's development work. He was utilizing a large head of water which carried the top dirt into a cut and sluice box which handled the tailings and carried it off in a large volume of water.

Mr. Macfarlane arrived here in '98, among the first representatives of English capital. He very quietly visited all the different claims along the creeks and made careful observations concerning the output of the several claims, taking notes on all properties that met with his approval. At that time Hunker creek was not held to be as valuable as it has proven itself to be at present. In the purchase of 5A and 5 below, Hunker, he set the price of mining properties in that section during the summer of 1898. At that time the price paid was a subject of public discussion, but since then the values of the property have shown clearly that his judgment was sound, as properties are worth three times more at present than the valuations obtaining last year. It is the intention of the company to operate very extensively on the various mining interests in the Klondike and Indian River mining districts, to place the values of the different properties, and it was to offer suggestions for the development that Mr. Macfarlane hurried his visit to London. The output of the two properties has more than paid the purchase price of the claims, the dividends emphasizing the fact that Klondike property is becoming as much sought for as the famous quartz leads of the Transvaal. The properties on Upper Bonanza will be opened up by summer sluicing, the same as has been done on all the properties of the N. A. T. & T. Co., so next year these properties will be as actively worked as was the claims on Hunker, but on a more extensive scale, as gravel elevators and steam shovels will take the place of former hand labor. Mr. H. Temple Fall, who was the local agent for the B. I. K. & N. Co., in Dawson, has shown himself to be a practicable miner, and is handling the properties over on Hunker in the same efficient manner as one sees on the Joe Hansen and the Dome Gold Mining Companies' properties.

First Government Concession.

Robert Anderson applied for the first government concession in the Klondike district. He was successful in his mission at Ottawa, obtaining a concession of two and a half miles on Hunker creek for a lease of 20 years, a territory extending from a point 1,000 feet below the mouth of Last Chance down Hunker to near its conjunction with the Klondike, embracing all the creek beds from base to base of hill. The average width of the creek bed is 900 feet. The company is called the Klondike Government Concession, Ltd. The directors are: Chairman, James Mitchell, J. P., of Auchen Gray House, near Aldrie, N. B., and Winchester House, E. C.; John Carrick, 26 Renfield street, Glasgow, also director of Exploring Land and Minerals Co., Ltd.; P. G. Hamilton Carvell, M. P., St. Ermins Mansions, Westminster; Ar-

thur Fell, chairman and director of Athabasca Gold Mine, Ltd.; W. A. Wells, chairman of Africa Trust Consolidated and General Exploration Co., Ltd.; Robert Anderson, Dawson, Y. T.; Messrs. Morrison and Marshall, of London, with a capital stock of £350,000, were the promoters. In the spring of '98 James Holmes, the foreman, sank a hole in the creek bed in about the middle of the property, reaching bedrock at a depth of 16 feet, 13 pans of gravel yielding \$78—one pan going \$9. This created considerable excitement and drew the attention of the miners to the left limit. Later on the hillsides were located for a distance of a mile up and down the creek. R. Anderson panned out as high as \$20 from this hole. This discovery encouraged the company to begin development work on an extensive scale. They shipped in this summer a big consignment of boilers, hoisting machinery, thawing attachments and piping for their large hydraulic plant.

Mr. A. F. Martyn, mining and mechanical engineer, is the resident manager who has started development work on the property upon a very extensive scale. A dam was constructed and turned the creek into a ditch 450 feet long, which has ground sluiced the muck for a depth of eight feet to the pay gravel. The excavation ranges from 40 to 80 feet in width. During the summer he set up a line of sluice boxes and uncovered a high piece of bedrock next to the left limit. From a space containing 57 square yards of gravel the total yield was 100 ounces. Since then a hoist plant has been built, about 250 feet from the left limit, containing a galloway frame 26 feet high. A double-compartment shaft has been sunk to a depth of 30 feet, lined and studded with timbers. The gravel is a white wash of crushed quartz from two to three feet in depth, which washed as high as \$1 to the pan. This gravel has all the characteristics of the wash from the famous white channel extending up and down lower Bonanza and Eldorado, upper Bonanza and Last Chance creeks, and as found on the famous French, Gold and Adams hills. The gravel, as shown in the bottom of the shaft, is a distinct run from the Hunker channel, which conclusively shows that the Klondike Government Concession, Ltd., has two paystreaks in that section of the creek. The gravel, as found in the prospect hole sunk in the bed of the creek, has not the characteristic white quartz of the bench country but has the iron stain found in the paystreak of Hunker creek proper.

This winter the manager and superintendent, Mr. Martyn, will extend a crosscut drift from the double compartment shaft to the left limit or base of the hill, and also across the creek bed towards the present course of the stream, continuing the drift course the entire width of the paystreak. From this initial cross drift the underground workings from the numerous shafts will be extended up stream for the entire season, taking out all the pay gravel and stowing the waste in the rear. This mode of procedure will lessen the amount of waste gravel to be hoisted to the surface. Next year the gravel elevator and steam shovel will hoist the pay gravel into the sluice boxes built on a high framework, so that the required fall for sluicing can be easily regulated. The tailings will be dumped onto the ground worked out this winter, so that none of the pay gravel will be covered by the waste dump. The company has three boilers, with thawing attachments, and will use eight points to a thawer, and, as the paystreak has been

exploited for the width of 150 feet, the force of men employed will have a large area of ground mapped out for them to extract during the coming season. At the hoisting works the Hawthorn tubular 35-horse-power boiler and double-gear hoisting drum, with cable attachment, expedites the lowering and hoisting of the bucket, which is a great advance over the old method of hand-lifting. A saw mill attachment is capable of cutting 1,000 feet daily for building and timbering purposes. The company has a number of comfortable log cabins for lodging and mess purposes, so that the men are comfortably quartered. The force of men now employed numbers 20, and will be increased as the development work justifies a further outlay. Mr. R. Anderson is now in London arranging for the shipment of more machinery suitable for the extensive workings of his vast property by means of the most improved methods of hydraulic mining. This company will rank first in its extensive operations in all the hydraulic mining of the district, and as the pioneer in the hydraulic concessions will continue to lead the other companies.

Mr. A. F. Martyn, the resident manager, is an experienced mining man, having been connected with the coal mines in Scotland for years. In the spring of 1897 he was called to the extensive management of the Rhodesia Limited, a mining company operating in Matabeleland, South Africa, with headquarters at Bulawayo, the capital. He remained with this company until 1899, when the chairman-director of the present company had him selected for the management at Hunker creek. Mr. Martyn is quiet and conservative in his address, but with a well-informed mining engineer, who is personally applying all his energies to the management of the property and has mapped out well-matured plans for its extensive development.

The Hunker Syndicate's Big String.

Some time early in the spring of 1899 two business men of Montreal, T. J. Donaghue and Thos. Adair, bought the claim No. 2) above discovery on Hunker creek, and out of that deal has developed the now famous Hunker syndicate, which bids fair to figure so prominently in the mining history of Dawson. Donaghue and Adair had arrived in Dawson in the fall of '98. They had brought with them large stocks of general merchandise, and built large stores and warehouses on the front street, and all through the winter conducted big mercantile operations. All the while, however, they had been studying the situation in mining, interested as all men must be who remain long in Dawson in the fascinating pursuit, where shrewd investors step hourly out of obscurity into the influential ranks of moneyed men.

Hunker creek had been something of a mystery during the season of '97-8. Not a great deal of work was done, and of that only a part was reported upon favorably after the cleanup. Discovery itself was scarcely developed; "old man Hunker" looked glum and said little, and his claim was spoken of, by even well-posted men, doubtfully. Almost no work was done above discovery that year, but within the mile below the best efforts of the winter were made. In the summer of '98, when the washup was over and miners from all over the district came together in Dawson to compare notes, Hunker creek came to be known as "spotted"—that is "pockety," or without a regular paystreak. Some people were ready to "gauche a little" on the creek, however, and Dick Lowe, who had risen in man's esteem with the rapid rise in values on Skookum, ventured so much as a lone thousand a year down on 40 below. In the fall of that

year "old man Hunker" whispered to some moneyed men the things that he knew about discovery, and he ceased to own the property. They paid him \$165,000 for it, and they got it cheap.

The very liveliest interest was aroused in the whole creek by this deal. If discovery was worth this sum of money, then Hunker creek must have a big yellow paystreak concealed about it somewhere, for placer gold is not deposited all in one man's claim. So the experienced argued. Work began all up and down the creek just as early in the fall as the frost made it possible, and a more diligent search for a paystreak has nowhere in the Klondike been made. Everybody knows the result, for the fame of the riches of Hunker creek has gone round the world.

T. J. Donaghue and Thomas Adair were on the ground during these interesting developments, and did not fail to take advantage of their opportunity. Where the left fork joins the main creek three men were at work sinking holes on claim No. 20 above discovery. The men were not miners. They were members of that throng that had rushed into the frozen north without reckoning what they were to encounter. They were unfitted for the work and eager to return to the south. Experienced men were set to watch the progress of their labor, and when the dirt they took from the shaft began to show \$1, \$1 and \$5 to the pan an offer was made the chechaks, which they accepted, and Donaghue & Adair became the owners of No. 20. The work of development was given into the hands of practical miners and hastened to the utmost, with such encouraging results that a big scheme began to develop in the brains of these two men. They found shortly after an opportunity to acquire No. 21—three claims further up the creek. The purchase price was paid, and within the same week what is now so well known as the "Hunker syndicate" was formed. "Dan" Stewart joined his name to the others in the enterprise, and No. 29 was next secured.

Everybody knows that while the problem of mining—how best to meet the conditions in this country—is being rapidly worked out, it has not yet been solved. Discovery and some distance below and a long distance above were, after a good deal of experimenting, found to be what is known as "shallow diggings"—that is, that the bedrock lay so near the surface that a cheaper mode of working might be adopted than that of drifting. The moss and then the black muck is taken off and the underlying gravel is thrown directly into sluice boxes and there washed and carried away by the current—the whole surface, straight down to bedrock, is treated in this way, and in nearly every case, even where the bedrock is as deep as 16 feet, found to be much cheaper, while at the same time no part of the gold deposit can escape, as it is so apt to do in drifting. The work is done in summer instead of winter, and the sun is depended upon to thaw the ground. The long days of the Arctic summer—covering the full 24 hours—afford splendid opportunities for continuous, speedy and comprehensive work, and where the sun has a fair chance it loosens the gravel rapidly enough to keep a sufficient force of men at work. But all this, worked out in theory during the winter preceding, was nothing more than an experiment last spring, and summer, in some instances proved very expensive. This is the case where the creek canyons and the sun has not a long day's play in the open cut. The Hunker syndicate worked two of their properties 20 and 22, as open diggings, but compromised with 20, using a steam shaver in a drift during the entire summer. All three of the claims have yielded magnificently. The strip in 22 was completely and very suc-

cessfully worked out, and preparations made for working next summer. A break in the bedrock in 20 was being followed down with good prospects increasing at every foot when a spring of water was released that overmatched the pumping facilities, compelling a suspension of the work. Mr. Donaghue, who left here early in September, is now making arrangements for bringing in the most approved machinery for working the string of claims next summer. The syndicate will supplement the work of the sun with steam thawers, and steam pumps and hoists will keep the way clear. It is also understood that Mr. Donaghue has secured options on several claims adjoining the properties named, and will endeavor to enlist capital in securing them. If successful, the Hunker syndicate will control the longest continuous strip of rich pay dirt held by any one company in the Klondike. The working of the big property, according to the plans formed, will be a model of thoroughness and economy, made possible only by a perfect knowledge of the ground, the location of the paystreak and the conditions to be met. Some of the ground listed on the options is now being worked and known to be very rich.

Discovery of Paystreak Under Slide Rock.

The Dome (Yukon Gold Mining Company, Ltd., organized under the laws of the United Kingdom in February, 1899, with a working capital of £150,000, has been operating on several valuable mining properties the past season. The managing director, Louis Coste, has personally looked after the management and direction of all the mining affairs, and has made great progress in the development of his claims on Hunker. The directors are: Falconer Larkworthy, chairman; P. G. Sechiare, T. Trevor or White, N. A. Belcourt and Louis Coste managing director. The claims now being worked by the company are as follows: Nos. 5 and 6 above and No. 2 below on Hunker, No. 22 below, Bonanza, and No. 38 above. Sulphur. Besides these valuable properties, the company owns a 10-miles' hydraulic concession on Australia creek. A large force of men is employed in sinking holes and exploiting the river bed this summer to determine the value of the property and arrange for the future system in its development. Manager Coste was so well pleased with the prospects obtained in the gravel and upon bedrock in the creek bed, that he intends to purchase a large hydraulic plant this winter in one of the eastern cities to operate upon the properties next spring on the same large scale that outside hydraulic companies are accustomed to carry on.

A seven mile trail was cut through the timber leading from the ridge between the water shed of the Klondike and Indian River districts for the transportation by pack train via the Dome, from Dawson to his camp on Australia creek, the work costing \$7,000. Mr. Coste realized the importance of having a good trail upon which to transport his supplies, and could not wait for the Dominion government to come to his rescue and build a road to that rich and extensive section. It is about time for the government at Ottawa to realize the crying need for roads upon which to transport the supplies to outlying camps. In addition to the claims now in operation, this enterprising company owns a number of other creek and bench claims which will be prospected during the winter and put in full operation early next spring. The company has also secured a number of options on quartz properties, and intend doing a large amount of work in prospecting and developing the same. Six of the best and most experienced miners in the country are now in the field in behalf of the company examining, proper-

ties of all kinds, and there is every evidence that early next spring the managing director will be able to declare a large dividend for his company. S. D. Soper, the foreman, a former Nevada and California miner, will superintend the mining operations on Hunker during the absence of Mr. Coste this winter, who will make his headquarters at Montreal. Up to going to press a large working force was employed in shoveling into sluice boxes on No. 2 below Hunker, the drain ditch and bedrock being carefully creviced and cleaned, so that the diggings presented a miner-like appearance. The bedrock was taken up in places so the gold had settled down in the crevices and lodged behind the riffles. During the fore part of the season the muck had been ground-sluiced from the gravel deposits, so that the men had ample room to shovel the gravel into the string of sluice boxes, the boilers furnishing the steam for the plunger pumps which lifted the water from the drain ditches into the sluice boxes, adding to the volume of water furnished from the dam above. The pitch of the boxes had a sufficient grade to carry off a large quantity of gravel and the larger pieces of bedrock, which facilitated work and was a marked advantage over the arrangement of sluice boxes in other parts of the creek.

No. 2 below is rated as being one of the richest claims on Hunker, as it is situated in the very center of the best paystreak. When the writer visited No. 5 above, the foreman was more than satisfied with the results of his former day's sluicing. On the left limit of No. 5, where the creek at one time had deposited the paystreak, a slide of bedrock had filled the creek bed and turned the stream of water towards the right limit. Foreman Soper, in sinking a couple of holes through this bedrock, uncovered a very rich paystreak, taking up the slide bedrock for a depth of six feet. One boulder was covered with gold to such an extent that the foreman was curious to know how much dust was lodged on the boulder. He scraped and washed the dust from the slide rock, and in weighing it found that he had about \$50 in his scales.

The operations of the original miners were confined to the right limit, as they did not meet with such encouraging returns, so that the late discovery under the point shows that the main coarse gravel pay channel follows the left limit in that section of Hunker. No. 6 has also thawers in operation, and the paystreak has also been located.

It is the intention of Foreman Soper to follow out the orders of Manager Coste and push the development work with the aid of steam thawers, so that next spring at the cleanup this company will have the largest dumps of gravel extracted on the creek.

Louis Coste was connected with the Public Works Department of the Dominion of Canada for over 15 years, and resigned his position as chief engineer of the Public Works Department of the Dominion of Canada to accept his present position with this enterprising company.

Hunker Creek Roadhouses.

In going up Hunker creek, the Last Chance roadhouse, owned by Dick Crane, is one of the first met while en route from Dawson. At the mouth of Gold Bottom there are several roadhouses, the Shafter hotel having new accommodations and a new addition lately built. Four miles from the summit the Hunker roadhouse, owned by J. C. McPherson, has ample accommodations for a stop during the night. Among the other roadhouses are the Bartlett Brothers, Mrs. Moulton, McDonald, Herbert, Mrs. Hoven, Mrs. Ladue and Jewell.

Are you a subscriber of the News? If not, you should be.

Blanchard Hotel

GRAND FORKS

Two stories; accommodations for fifty guests. Neat, cozy and comfortable. Dining and lodging service in charge of **MRS. WILSON.**

REDUCED RATES BY THE MONTH

A. S. BLANCHARD, PROPRIETOR.

LAST CHANCE ROAD HOUSE

On Hunker, opp. Last Chance Creek

Oldest road house on the creek. Large store in Annex. A new barn for horses, built of sod; frost-proof and warmest in the Klondike.

COMFORTABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR FIFTY PEOPLE
NEW APARTMENTS FOR ACCOMMODATION OF LADIES

Dining Room Service on wheels on the creek

Headquarters for Last Chance Miners.

DICK CRANE, Proprietor.

SHAFFER HOTEL

On 29 Below, Hunker

OPPOSITE GOLD BOTTOM

J. C. SHAFFER, Proprietor

Newly Refitted and Remodeled. New addition, 20 x 30, for Bar, Office and Dining Room. Accommodation for Forty Persons.

Only Bars for Shelter of Horses. 22 x 30.

Headquarters for Travelers en route for Sulphur.

HUNKER ROAD HOUSE

Formerly the old Jewel House, No. 1 Above, Hunker.

NEWLY REMODELED AND FINISHED THROUGHOUT

Parlor, Bar and Dining Room. Enlarged and Transferred to New Quarters, Stable and House for shelter of Horses and Dogs. Location, four miles from summit and headquarters for travel for All Gold and Too Much Gold Creeks.

Meals First-class in Every Respect.

J. C. McPHERSON, Prop.
FORMERLY OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Dominion Hotel

Accommodations for 40 Guests
Large Office and Dining Room
First-class Bar
The Finest Liquors and Cigars

At No. 1 Above Upper Discovery, Dominion

Pioneer Road House on Dominion. Warm and comfortable. Double windows throughout and lined with canvas. Stable and Dog House connected.

Excellent Table and Meals at All Hours. E. S. Brown & Mrs. Schoeraffe, Proprietors

Central Dominion Hotel

AT 36 BELOW UPPER, DOMINION

Two-story log building. Store and saloon in addition to road house. Ten comfortable and convenient rooms and bunk house for lodging. Accommodations for sixty guests. Six-horse stage runs between this hotel and Dawson, making daily trips this winter.

Cozy, Comfortable and Home-like

H. L. BURT & MRS. SCOLAND, PROPS.

GOLD RUN HOTEL

DOMINION, opp. the mouth of Cariboo

OPENS ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 10

Excellent Meals at All Hours

Stable and Dog House. A Good Shelter
Service Prompted Over by Mrs. Deho

Headquarters for
Miners en route
for Gold Run

T. H. GRAHAM, Prop., formerly owner of 44 Below, Hunker

GANDOLFO

ESTABLISHED JUNE, 1898

Pioneer FRUIT MERCHANT of Dawson

Largest and most complete stock of Pine Apples,
Stationery, Fruit, Cigars and Tobacco and Fancy
Groceries

FIRST AVENUE, OPPOSITE CANADIAN DEVELOPMENT CO. B. B. C.

Canadian Development Company

LIMITED

H. Maitland Kersey,

MANAGING DIRECTOR

GENERAL OFFICES:
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THROUGH Bills of
Lading issued from
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American Goods
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Operating
Ten Steamers

Between

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Canadian Yukon Lumber Co.

Established
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SAW MILL PLANT
at
RELKINK
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over a year

Holds Large Timber Limits on
Yukon and Stewart Rivers. Ranks
among the largest Lumber Com-
panies in the Yukon Territory...

Future Operations

Next year Immense Lumber Yards will be estab-
lished in Dawson and at Stewart River, and new
Saw Mill located at Stewart River, which will
enable the Company to manufacture all kinds of
LUMBER, SASH, DOORS and SHINGLES for the
future building of Dawson.

The Canadian-Yukon Lumber Company

ORGANIZED IN MONTREAL

Messrs. Capt. Bliss, Price and Anthony
MANAGERS OF THE COMPANY

Mr. D. G. Stewart
RESIDENT MANAGER, DAWSON

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Dominion and Its Rich Benches.

LYING between 16 above upper and 10 below lower is the best-paying ground on Dominion creek, which heads at the foot of the Dome and empties into Sulphur creek, a distance of 30 miles. Several claims around upper discovery, in that part of the creek, extending from 31 below to 12 above lower, has produced the most gold. There are points on Dominion under which the creek's paystreak has run under and left the boundary line of the creek claims. The richness of a number of the benches on these points is due to the creek's paystreak coming within the limits of the bench claims.

H. S. Henney and William Myers, who have been working a lay for the past year on a fraction between Nos. 2 and 3 above upper, found the paystreak in the creek bed about a month ago. They took out one pan that weighed \$42.2 in gold. Before that they had been unsuccessful for the past seven months in making enough to buy a grub stake. The pay dirt had lodged along the left rim of the creek bed. This discovery has attracted outside buyers to this section of the creek. No. 36 below upper is rated as the banner claim in the yield of gold, for the amount of work done. No. 5 below upper is the property of G. W. F. Johnson and J. E. MacAlpine, and has paid the most royalty on the creek. The output has been over \$100,000.

Lower Dominion is very wide. The paystreak has a fine run of gold, which will need an extensive scale of mining to make operations there profitable. There are about seven miles of territory on Dominion which contain the best paying properties. The hillsides were discovered in the fall of 1898. No. 4 above, located by H. J. Coates and recorded in July, was the first hillside or discovery claim from which gold in paying quantities was found. The best sections adjoin the left limit opposite the mouth of Cariboo, from 31 below upper to 11 below lower, and from 4 below upper to 16 below upper, all in the left limit. No. 4 hillside above lower yielded \$844 with two rockers in one day, during the month of September, 1898. This is the richest bench on Dominion. The bench of Frank and Arthur Howard and Gus Olsen, opposite Cariboo, also produced well.

Rich Section Near Discovery.

Among the promising properties on Dominion, No. 1 below upper ranks among the first. Carl G. Anderson and Henry Wonderlyde are the owners. It was developed last winter on the right limit, a space of ground 40x120 feet being worked out. The paystreak has been uncovered for 100 feet in width, all in pay gravel. The upper end, next to discovery, has not been touched. Next to the line, discovery claim yielded \$40 pans. In the middle of the claim, where the work was done, Pete Bauman found several \$50 pans. The gold is very coarse, very little fine gold being found in the creek bed. Mr. Wonderlyde went out this fall to purchase a steam boiler and thawing apparatus, so as to work the ground cheaply and extensively the coming season. A steam hoist will handle the pay gravel in the shafts. Carl Anderson has been in the country during the last five years. He resided at Fortymile and Circle City, reaching Dawson in the spring of '97. He located and recorded No. 75 below on Bonanza, and in the winter of '98 sold it for \$15,000 to an English syndicate, represented by James Dougherty, familiarly

known as Nigger Jim. During the winter of '98-9 he sank several holes on Little Blanche creek, finding some pay gravel on his claim, No. 8. He also owns a bench opposite 15 on Canyon. He has followed mining for the last ten years, is energetic and untiring in his mining efforts in the seeking of a grub stake for life. This winter he will work out the bed of the creek, taking up two feet of the bedrock and from three to four feet of the gravel, which contains the pay. If the development work is satisfactory, he will put on a large force of men during the coming season.

Discoverer of the First Hillside Claims.

H. J. Coates, who served in the Northwest Mounted Police for four years, lately getting his discharge, was the original discoverer of the benches on Dominion. The latter part of May, '98, he sunk a prospect hole on the hillside claim adjoining No. 4 above lower, striking bedrock at the depth of five feet. His pans went 50 cents and \$1. Constable W. R. Newman was with him at the time. They located the upper and lower half adjoining No. 4 above. Lewis Banke, a creek owner, had told them that he thought the point was a favorable location for finding pay gravel. The fall of '98 he gave a 50 per cent lay to N. E. Emerson, A. C. Coburn, W. G. Brien, known on the turf as Counsellor Bill, and N. W. Field. This claim has yielded \$45,000. The biggest nugget taken from this claim weighed \$12.50, and the highest pan weighed \$41. The day's output with two rockers amounted to \$544. The ground is shallow on the point of the face of the cut, only showing a depth of five feet. There is no better ground suitable for cheap mining to be found on the creek. In company with A. C. Coburn and T. J. Donaghue, he also owns the upper half hillside adjoining No. 2 above lower discovery. This claim has equally as rich pay gravel. He has given a two-years' lease to N. E. Emerson to work out the paystreak, which has been prospected for 400 feet in width.

Over \$100,000 Cleanup.

No. 5 below upper is owned by G. W. F. Johnson and J. A. MacAlpine, formerly a constable of the N. W. M. P. In the winter of 1898-9 a piece of ground 15x200 feet was worked by means of 12 shafts. The cleanup represented over \$100,000. The mine employed 40 men. The paystreak has been uncovered for a width of 150 feet, and shows a depth of from three to four feet in gravel. In places the gold is found in paying quantities on bedrock to a depth of six feet. This summer Mr. MacAlpine has had charge of the development work. He has a steam thawer and hoist working from two shafts, hoisting a large bucket, holding three ordinary buckets of gravel, at the rate of from 50 to 80 buckets an hour. The gravel and waste are hoisted by the bucket and dumped into a chute which empties directly into the sluice-box. Both gravel and waste are run through the sluice-box, as it is cheaper to handle it only once. William Heffron, formerly of Colorado, is the foreman. Mr. MacAlpine is having his property handled at least cost than has been done on any other claim on the creek. This claim has paid more royalty up to date than any other claim in that district.

Dominion Roadhouses.

Among the prominent roadhouses on Dominion those of Herbert L. Burt and Mrs. Scotland, at No. 36 below upper; that of Thomas H. Graham, at the mouth of Cariboo, and of Brown and

Mrs. Schoeraffe, at No. 1 above upper, contain all the requirements for the accommodation of travelers. The buildings are warm and cozy, built of logs and lined with canvas. The other roadhouses are owned by Bartlett Brothers, Mrs. F. Arnaud, Hugh Dougherty and McNeil.

Gold Run.

Gold Run is the newest by far of all the creeks of good reputation in the Klondike or Indian River districts. Long after Dominion had been shown to be a good creek, Gold Run, which is a branch of Dominion, began to show up values. Owing to the fact that not a very large amount of work has been done on this creek, it may be said now that it has not been exploited. However, it may be said that enough has been done to justify the belief that it is one of the six great and rich creeks so far proved. On Gold Run pans have been washed from which over \$500 have been taken. Small areas of ground on several claims have been worked and produced enough gold to show that the gravel beds in places are as rich as good average Eldorado gravel. The creek may be spotted, the paystreak may be narrow or limited, but enough has been shown to justify the belief that the probabilities are that Gold Run will turn out to be one of the best creeks in the district. Dr. A. E. Wills was one of the first men to become largely interested in this creek, and one day early last spring when he did not have any spare cash, he obligated himself to the extent of some \$50,000 under an agreement that he would take the money out of one of his Gold Run claims within 50 days, and he did—or at least very nearly that amount.

Good pay has been found from down about 10 or 15 up to 50 on this creek. Wills and others are putting on large forces of men to work their properties, and in this way showing that they have great faith in the future of the creek.

Most of the work to be done during the coming winter on Gold Run will be with the use of steam thawers. The great distance of the creek from Dawson means, of course, very heavy expense for material and supplies; but the fact that large quantities of freight is still going over there is the best indication of the faith that the men, who are going to large expense to open up claims, have in the value of their properties.

Lower Dominion Benches.

During the past summer there has been considerable activity on the left limit hillside claims, gold being found in paying quantities as far down as 240 below lower discovery. It will require further development work to determine the extent of the deposit and value of the high gravel beds in that section of territory. There were fully 100 men engaged in rocking and sinking on favorable points and benches during the past summer. The best ground ends in the 30's, the hillside claims being held at from \$2,000 to \$5,000. A late discovery on Dr. Simpson's hillside, adjoining the lower half of No. 5 below upper, and worked on lays, produced considerable gold dust, while Frank Berry's hillside claims, adjoining Nos. 10 and 11 below upper, attracted equally as much attention in its output.

Quartz Creek Looking Up.

A little band of "sour-dough" miners began operating and prospecting on Quartz creek as early as 1891. Among the early pioneers were William Readford, who located discovery claim; Bob Henderson, Albert Anderson, Tom Dal-

ton, Barton brothers, and J. Mack. They ascended Indian river from the Yukon in poing boats, making Joe Ladue's post at Sixtymile their base of supplies. After rocking on the Indian river bars below, and at the mouth of Quartz creek, they ascended Quartz creek and built their cabins for the winter of '94 and '95. They never made a success out of the creek bed of Quartz creek, although they worked hard and did considerable drifting and sinking. In 1896-6 several were compelled to rock on the Jara of Fortymile in order to secure enough dust for a winter's grub stake. In the spring of 1896 Bob Henderson, Tom Dalton and the Barton brothers crossed over the ridge at the Dome, and below, at their feet, were the head ravines of Eldorado, Bonanza and Hunker. Had they selected the further creeks, to-wit, Eldorado, Bonanza or Hunker, there would have been a different story to relate of their subsequent ill luck. But Gold Bottom headed just below them, and being handy, they dropped down its steep water shed and began prospecting. At the junction of a small pup, about three miles from the head, a high rim of bedrock cropped to the surface. Their first pans showed from 10 to 15 cents in the gravel, where a drain ditch was started and lumber whipsawed for a string of sluice boxes. The summer sluicing turned out well, yielding them from \$10 to \$16 per shovel during a ten-hour's shift. During this time George Carmack heard of the discovery, and made a trip to the diggings from the mouth of Klondike river. He was accompanied by his brothers-in-law, Skookum Jim and Indian Charley. Bob Henderson would not allow the Indians to locate claims on Gold Bottom as he had reserved the creek for his comrades. George Carmack returned to his camp, now the site of Klondike city, by way of Bonanza. On that trip he made the discovery of gold, which has made him famous as the discoverer of the Klondike district. By failing to notify the prospectors on Gold Bottom, they did not learn of the strike until all the claims on Eldorado and Bonanza had been located by the stampedeers from Fortymile.

Last winter and spring several hillside and bench claims on the right limit were discovered, having a wide pay channel, in some places fully 600 feet above the creek bed. The best returns have been found on hillsides adjoining Nos. 6, 12 and 23 below Mack's discovery. The creek claims have not been profitable, owing to the slow methods used.

Mining and Real Estate Broker.

Jacob Eul, mining and real estate broker at Grand Forks, is one of the pioneers in his line of business. He established himself at Grand Forks in 1897, and by close attention to business and straightforward manner in all his dealings, has built up an excellent business. He probably has a larger amount of mining property listed for sale than any other dealer in the district, being located, as he is, in the heart of the mining district. He gives special attention to the representation of property for absentees, or those who do not have the time to look after such business personally. He always has a large list of lays to let, many of them being good bargains. He also deals in lumber, coal, firewood, logs, and hay; in fact, will buy you anything you want at the lowest market prices. Several companies on the outside have submitted property to him for report as to valuation, his judgment being considered as good as any in the country. His great energy and push have won for him much success.

A Most Successful Lady Miner.

MISS B. A. MULRONEY is one of the very few successful ladies who arrived in Dawson in 1897, and through her energy and business qualifications has

amassed considerable valuable mining and real estate property. Among her large holdings are the following: One-half of No. 40 above Bonanza; a 250-foot claim bought from Antone Stander in '99, considered one of the best claims on upper Bonanza. The adjoining claim, No. 39 above, has produced a large output of gold, the paystreak extending up to the boundary line between the two claims. This summer's sluicing has produced \$19,000 from one cleanup on the latter claim. Since coming into the possession of No. 40 above, Miss Mulroney has made extensive preparations for development work next winter by the use of steam hoists and thawers. No. 26, fraction above discovery, Bonanza, was leased this summer on a lay contract by Miss Mulroney, and 50x100 feet was completely worked out, occupying a short space of one month's time, beginning August 4th and ending September 4th. Twelve experienced miners were given employment, Miss Mulroney superintending the work personally. Recently she purchased 57 below Bonanza. This claim was badly managed by former owners. Of the 500-foot claim, only 60x75 feet has been worked since the staking three years ago. It was some time before the paystreak was located on the left limit, and it is her intention to work this property extensively, and she expects large pay dumps the coming winter. On 47 below discovery, Dominion, fair prospects have been found on a 50-foot lay, which was given for the development of the claim. One of her most valuable bench claims was located on Chechako hill, bounded on one side by the property of the Yukon Gold Fields, Ltd., and at the other end by that of Senator Lynch. Miss Mulroney intends to drive two parallel tunnels to the end of the claim, the gradual slope affording a grade for the tipples, of the pay channel at a considerable depth, as the hill is fully 600 feet above Bonanza creek. It is her intention to pump the water from the creek to a height of a hundred feet upon the hillside, and convey the pay gravel by means of a tramway from the tunnels to the sluice boxes, to avoid the useless handling of the tailings. This claim is in the center of the rich paystreak on Chechako hill, centrally located between the two richest gold producers in that section. Miss Mulroney has refused several large offers for this valuable property, for, knowing that it has an extensive paystreak, she has decided to learn by development work the extent of its value before considering a sale. On the south side the Yukon Gold Fields, Ltd., has run tunnels and extended cross drifts upon their valuable group of mines, encountering a very rich run of gravel. This development work on the neighboring property has naturally increased the value of Miss Mulroney's claim, so that she is safe in going to considerable of an outlay of capital for the purchase of thawers and machinery for the carrying on of an extensive scale of operations.

Miss Mulroney arrived in Dawson in the summer of 1897, at a time when the mines had made several poor men wealthy. There was plenty of gold dust in circulation, but it soon dawned upon the minds of the residents that there would be a scarcity of provisions during the fast approaching winter. She started a restaurant, soon after her arrival, on

First avenue, but in the early fall was forced to close it on account of the scarcity of provisions. In July, 1897, in going up the creeks on a stampedore for the Eldorado benches, she noticed a favorable location for a townsite which the junction of Eldorado and Bonanza offered. Following out her impression that in time a town would grow up at the mouth of Eldorado, she located a building lot. Soon after getting the lot she began building a hotel and store, known as the Grand Forks hotel, and had no competition for the greater part of the year. Shortly after, Miss Mulroney erected and purchased other buildings during the winter of 1898, among which was a large addition to the main hotel. This spring she sold the hotel building to Max Endelman and William Shuler for \$24,000. The town took its name from the hotel and was called Grand Forks. In Dawson Miss Mulroney is interested in the Telephone company and in the Hygiea Water works, both enterprises contributing toward the convenience and the comfort of the community.

The Fairview hotel was erected in the summer of '98, having the distinction of being the largest building in Dawson at that time. It contains 30 rooms, dining room, office and bar, lighted by electric lights and wired with electric bells. It is a three-story building, situated on the corner of First avenue and First street, in the center of Dawson, occupying a prominent location between the government buildings and the Alaska Commercial and North American Transportation and Trading company stores. It is only a half block from the postoffice, and located midway between the Bank of British North America and Canadian Bank of Commerce, is handsomely furnished throughout, no expense having been spared to give an excellent service and earn the patronage and popularity which the hotel has had since its opening. It is a first-class hotel in every sense of the word. It is her intention to enlarge the building with an addition covering the remainder of the lot extending to Second avenue—which is destined to become one of the most important corners in Dawson—the dimensions being 30x165 feet. At the present writing the Fairview hotel is under lease to Gates and Cox, well-known and popular residents of Dawson, and under their able management it is in a very flourishing condition. In the latter part of the summer of 1898 there was a great demand for good drinking water. Seeing the need of city water works, Miss Mulroney was instrumental in promoting a company known as the Hygiea Water company, whose capacity in supplying the needs of Dawson residents has been greatly enlarged this season. As the main promoter of the telephone line, she has been enabled to concentrate the telephone business into one company, purchasing the opposition line from Thomas O'Brien during the past summer. This telephone line not only connects Dawson with Grand Forks, but has been extended to Dominion, as far down as the mouth of Caribou creek. Before another year rolls around, Sulphur and Hunker creeks will be connected with the Central office at Dawson.

Miss Mulroney intends to leave on an extended trip this winter, visiting her parents in Pennsylvania, and will continue her journey in a visit to her grandparents in Great Britain, later on taking in the Paris Exposition. Besides the already mentioned claims, she also owns No. 210 below lower Dominion; one-third of No. 12B Gold Run, lately pur-

chased; hillside adjoining, Gold Run; one-half of the Gold hill bench claim 200 feet in a direct line above the Lancaster claim; one-half in a Gold hill bench opposite No. 3 Eldorado, bounded up stream by Ranchert's claim and on the down stream side by the Jones claim; one-third interest in a bench claim opposite No. 2 Eldorado; a three-fourths interest in the second tier of bench claims opposite No. 26, right limit, of the hydraulic reserve, Hunker creek; one-fourth interest in bench No. 31, right limit, Eldorado. A number of these hillside and bench claims have been partially worked, showing favorable prospects for future working. She will give lays on most of her undeveloped properties.

Miss Mulroney is a woman of remarkable energy. She possesses a business foresight that would do credit to any business man. Coming to the Klondike at a time when the chances for making money were numerous, she did not hesitate in branching out, and the result has been that she has outstripped those of the sterner sex who have been connected with large business enterprises on the outside. Faith and daring are not wanting in her plans for all future operations. It is due to these qualities, and a rapid execution of all plans mapped out, that today she stands without a rival as the most successful woman of the Klondike in mining, hotel management and other large enterprises. People passing up and down upper Bonanza this summer were surprised to find a woman, in the person of Miss Mulroney, actually engaged in superintending the workings of her placer mine. Securing a lay on a rich fraction between 25 and 26 above Bonanza, she had in her employ 12 men, and was taking out fully \$1,000 a day. As she expressed it, when seen by a representative of the News: "I like mining, and have only hired a foreman because it looks better to have it said that a man is running the mine; but the truth is that I look after the management myself."

The Royal at the Forks.

When at Grand Forks, whether you be visitor, miner or merchant, you should remember the Royal Cafe if you wish to eat. There are eating houses and eating houses, but there is only one Royal. Travelers of all trades and professions are quick to catch on to a good place to eat, and this is why the Royal has so quickly become the favorite resort for the hungry public. The genial proprietor, Jack King, has everything arranged for the convenience and comfort of his guests, and Mrs. King has personal supervision of the cooking, which accounts for everything appearing on the tables at the Royal, having that palatable homelike taste. No pains are spared to secure the best eatables the market affords, but the palatable style in which the same is served to the public, has done more to make the Royal the popular eating resort than anything else. Aside from what one eats here, you can always find on the side tables all the latest papers, magazines and periodicals of all kinds, so time never wears heavily if you happen to call for lunch when the "rush" is on.

The choicest brands of cigars and tobaccos are kept constantly on hand at the Royal, and if you eat there once you will eat there twice, and after you eat twice, "huf sed," you'll eat there ever afterward when at Grand Forks.

Valuable Mining Properties.

Edgar A. Miner, of the A. C. Co., owns and represents a number of promising mining properties on Eldorado,

Bonanza, Dominion and Sulphur creeks. His most important gold producing claims are Nos. 1 and 18 on Eldorado, in which Skiff Mitchell and Lloyd Watson are interested. Since the winter of 1896-7 these properties have been extensively developed during the winter months, and the past summer Skiff Mitchell had a large force of men engaged on No. 1 in ground sluicing and shoveling into a long string of sluice boxes. On No. 13 above lower, Dominion creek, summer sluicing was carried on extensively, and large cleanups were realized. The spring cleanup for last winter's work yielded an output of \$58,000.

Mr. Mizner has received a large consignment of mining machinery for the development of his various best producing claims during the summer months. Steam thawers and hoists will be sent out to Nos. 3 above and 9 below Sulphur, when sledding is good, for the opening up of these properties.

Mr. Mizner first arrived in Dawson in May, 1897, and bought into the Eldorado claims that year. He is also interested in several bench claims and creeks, not yet determined in value.

Following is a list of the valuable claims: Nos. 1 and 18, Eldorado; 8A, 19 and 23 below and 30 above Bonanza; 3, 8, 28 and 31 below, and 6 above Dominion; 2, 3, 26, 58 and 63 above, and 9 and 28 below Sulphur; 59, Gold Run; 4, Gay gulch; 2 above, Last Chance; discovery, Quartz creek.

An Up-to-Date Prospector.

Few men are better known along the Yukon river from its mouth to its source than William H. McPhee, known to all the old-timers as plain "Bill" McPhee. For over 11 years he has been identified with everything transpiring along the river which would tend to the improvement and development of the auriferous valley of the Yukon. He has followed closely in the wake of new discoveries, backing his faith in new diggings by buying and opening up claims almost as soon as the discovery was made, and in the embryo cities, the inevitable concomitant of every important strike, plain "Bill" McPhee was ever among the first to invest his money in buildings for business purposes, and his shingle was one of the foremost to announce to the miners and prospectors that he was there and ready to serve them. It was in the spring of 1888 that Mr. McPhee first crossed the Chilkoot Pass, outfitting in Juneau, then but a budding metropolis of the far north. In company with his partners, the boat was built at Lake Lindemann, which bore them to the camp then just starting at the mouth of Fortymile creek. On the bars of this stream coarse gold had been found, which yielded from one to three and four ounces a day to the rocker. News of the new find soon spread to Stewart river, the bars of which had been the center of attraction for several years previous, and, true to the nature of the average prospector, who is ever looking for better ground, those mining at that point stampeded to the new diggings, and Fortymile City came into existence.

Mr. McPhee was among the first to enter business, and built a two-story log structure of considerable size, at that time the largest and most palatial along the river. He remained in Fortymile until the Birch-creek excitement of '94, moving to that point immediately afterward, and became one of the principal factors in the building of Circle City, erecting there the largest log building in that, the biggest log-cabin city in the world. He mined successfully on Mas-

todon and other creeks, and was content until Carnack's discovery of gold on Bonanza in '96 started the entire country. Over the ice, behind fleet-footed eskimoes, came the same plain "Bill" McPhee, arriving here but a few months after the rich strike, and at once built the Pioneer saloon building, the first saloon erected in the city of Dawson. This building remained standing until destroyed by fire in April of the present year, since which time Mr. McPhee has not been actively engaged in business other than mining. The ground, upon which the old Pioneer stood, has been leased to other tenants, who have built handsome business houses thereon, and yields to its owners the snug rental of \$10,000 per year.

Though heavily interested on Hunker, Eldorado and Sulphur creeks, and on French hill, in the Klondike district, Mr. McPhee has given the most of his attention during the past year to claims he owns on American creek, Eagle district, in American territory. On No. 7 above he has employed 15 men during the entire summer, paying them all \$1 per hour. The workings consist of a drain ditch 100 feet in length, and a strip of pay 30 feet wide and 100 feet long, which is now exposed, the six feet of muck and waste gravel topping it having been sluiced off early in the season. The paystreak is two feet in depth, a foot being in gravel and the balance lying in the bedrock, which is a decomposed diorite slate formation and easy to handle. This claim has averaged \$25 a day to the man shoveling in, and the beginning has scarcely been made.

Four miles of American creek are known to be good, the paystreak for that distance having been located. Among others who have worked their property this season, and whose claims have turned out well, may be mentioned Jack Devine, who owns a 629-foot fraction below discovery, the Roberts claim, and that owned by Mr. Harryman. The best pay is found in the neighborhood of No. 7 below, owned by W. H. Johns. Between 200 and 300 men have been employed on the creek during the present season, and it is estimated the total output will aggregate about \$250,000. American creek gold is somewhat finer in quality than much of the Klondike product, as it will average \$18 to the ounce at the mint.

Mr. McPhee has often been asked what was the proudest moment of his life in connection with the Yukon country, and he invariably replies that it was in 1893, when he brought the first horse ever in the Territory over the Chilkoot Pass. That horse is still alive, and is now the property of Miss Mulroney, though Mr. McPhee announces it as his intention to purchase the animal, no matter what the cost, take him in a palanquin car to Southern California and pension him for life.

First to Cross the Skagway Trail.

In the short but brilliant history that marks the rapid growth of the "Klondike," there is no figure that stands out more prominently than that of J. W. Boyle.

"Joe" Boyle, as he is more familiarly known, has forced his way to the front rank on his merits alone. His career, from the date of landing on the beach where Skagway now stands, to the present day, has been remarkable.

In company with eleven other prospectors, he, Frank P. Slavin and Frank Raphael were the first to attempt to cross the Skagway trail in the spring of 1897. Upon reaching the summit the trail ended, and six of the party turned back, but the remainder elected Mr. Boyle captain and pushed on. Leaving Slavin in charge of the cutting, Mr. Boyle pushed forward alone, and after three days and nights of almost constant travel succeeded in locating both Lake Bennett and Lake Toochi.

Upon arriving at Dawson he at once started up the creeks, and, to better acquaint himself with the method of mining frozen ground, went to work on No. 13 Eldorado.

From the very start he argued that hydraulic mining was the only method, and set to work to get blocks of ground.

Leaving here late in September he, in company with W. C. Gates, started to pole out up the Yukon. They were caught in the flowing ice three days later, but fought their way foot by foot up the river, with the thermometer sometimes as low as 25 below zero, to Carnack's Post. Here they overtook a party of four with the U. S. mail, and several others who were contemplating giving up and trying to get back to Dawson.

A meeting was held, an expedition formed, the food pooled, Joe Boyle elected captain, and after twenty-five days traveling on snowshoes, without tent or stove, they reached Haines Mission, at the mouth of the Chilkat river, following, as nearly as possible, the direction of the Dalton trail.

Every man of the party—excepting Boyle himself—declares till this day that but for his (Boyle's) able management, not a man would have reached the coast alive, and, as a token of their appreciation, at a little dinner in Seattle, they presented him with a handsome gold watch set with a large diamond, and suitably inscribed.

Upon his arrival in the East the war department requested Mr. Boyle to come to Washington, where he was offered the management of the relief expedition then being organized to be brought in with reindeer. Declining the honor on the ground that the proposition was impracticable, Mr. Boyle proceeded to Ottawa and, as a result of his visit to the Canadian capital, he now owns the most valuable timber and hydraulic properties in the Yukon Territory. His timber berths extend up the Klondike river for ten miles, representing millions of feet of merchantable timber and thousands of cords of fire wood right in the very heart of the camp.

In connection with his timber berth, Mr. Boyle operates the Arctic saw mill and the James Williams mill, and has cut over a million feet of logs into manufactured lumber this year. He has, this summer, erected a 200-foot wharf on the water front, with a warehouse 100 feet long and a lumber dock, and owns several pieces of valuable town real estate.

His hydraulic grant on the Klondike extends from the mouth of Bonanza to the mouth of Hunker, from summit to summit on both sides of the river. He also owns a one-half interest in a hydraulic grant extending from Canyon to Caulder, on Quartz creek, nearly three miles of gravel hillside, thoroughly prospected and proven rich. He and his associates have now a complete hydraulic plant lying at the mouth of Indian river, which will be transported up on the first ice, and set in operation in the early spring.

Besides these handsome properties, Mr. Boyle owns and is interested in some very rich placer claims, his aim always being to get property in blocks. Following is a list: No. 42A below Hunker; No. 75 below Sulphur; Nos. 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 above on Gold Bottom; No. 6 below on Quartz creek; hillside opposite 1, right limit, upper and lower half of 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 below on Quartz creek, and lower half of 23 below Mack's on Quartz creek.

Although from the splendid results accomplished it is evident that Mr. Boyle has worked hard and incessantly, his work has had no ill effects, for there is no finer specimen of physical manhood in the world today—his magnificent physique, great strength, and happy, sympathetic nature, coupled with a total abstinence from the use of liquor or

tobacco make him an ideal character for this rigorous climate.

Mr. Boyle has always taken a lively interest in public matters. During the fall of '98 the front street of Dawson had become almost impassable for teams. Getting the teamsters together, Mr. Boyle, in one day, laid a slab road from the A. C. corner to the Fairview. During last winter he gave a benefit for the indigent poor fund, and turned in \$1,741, and he is at present, in connection with Alex. McDonald, setting on foot a movement amongst business men and mine owners to establish a hospital for the maintenance of St. Mary's hospital.

A member of the Board of Trade, and chairman of the committee on legislation, Mr. Boyle has, by his strong personality, determination and downright honesty, won for himself the respect and esteem of all who have come in contact with him.

Narrow Paystreak on Victoria.

Victoria gulch, which empties into Bonanza at 42 above, has a section of the creek bed from Nos. 7 to 16 above, which has paid fairly well during the past two years. The paystreak is narrow and thin, but at favorable places upon the bedrock the gold dust has lodged in good paying quantities. So far, nothing encouraging has been found on the hillside claims and benches. The gulch is narrow and quite steep, so that much of the gold has been washed from the bedrock and dumped on the Bonanza creek claim.

French and British Capital.

Count C. E. Carboneau, the representative of the Anglo-French Syndicate, has been actively engaged in the development of 3A Eldorado, a fractional claim between Nos. 3 and 4, ever since his arrival over the ice last January, coming direct to Dawson from Paris, France. The purchase and transfer of this valuable property was consummated during the fall and winter of 1898. Mr. Pelkey, the locator, sold the claim for a large sum to the company on the representation of the count, who had made a careful examination of the property during the summer of 1898. Last winter considerable burning was done, and the drifting resulted in the accumulation of fairly large pay dumps for last spring's cleanups. The fraction is a valuable piece of property, as the paystreak extends across the entire width of the creek bed for a distance of fully 400 feet. The old river channel or lake deposit gravel bed has spilled from Gold hill, opposite the fraction, which accounts for the two runs of gold found on the claim. Besides this fraction, his company is interested in Nos. 14 and 15, Eldorado, in company with James McNamee, William Scouse and William Yong. These claims have been systematically worked during the past two years during the winter season, and, like the famous Lippy claim, No. 16, have done their share toward swelling the total output of the creek.

Count Carboneau has had a force of men engaged at sluicing on the fractional claim this past summer, and, judging from what has been said of the large cleanups, the company must have every reason to feel well recompensed for the outlay of money expended in the purchase price and in defraying the running expenses. He has closely applied himself in the management of the Eldorado claims with a view to handling the properties to the best advantage, and is always open to conviction when the application of an innovation for the improvement of the development work has been proven feasible and economical. This winter he will use steam thawers, to open up and drift on the paystreak, at the same time determine the width and best portion of the creek bed for next summer's sluicing. The count is active and affable in his address and bearing, and is fond of club life and the comforts

of luxurious living and surroundings. As the promoter and manager of the largest French syndicate, it is his aim to branch out and obtain more valuable mining properties for his company, at such times as he feels confident he will be able to do justice to the undertaking. The count makes the Gold Hill hotel his headquarters, but hardly a week has passed during the past summer that he has not come to Dawson to attend to various business matters needing personal attention. The company also owns 41 Eldorado.

AN IDYL.

The following beautiful poem was written for the Dawson Daily News by Cy Worman, the well-known poet and author, while on board the steamer Victoriana on the Yukon river, leaving Dawson, August 12, 1899:

In your sanctum sanctorum
There are many gems of art,
O'er which the bright electric glimmer gleams.
And among them there's a picture
That almost breaks my heart.
A picture of a woman dressed in dreams.
There's a hint of hope half hidden.
There are dreams of fruits forbidden.
There's the winsome waltz.
Where the tangled tresses fall:
And I'll own there's nothing Peter,
Nothing sweeter or completer—
But you'll have to
turn that picture
to the wall.

I had fancied in this heart of mine
All passion long deceased and dead,
I've been virtuous from the spiritmine to the
fall.
All this sultry, sunny summer I have lived
just like a priest—
But you'll have to
turn that picture
to the wall.

There are hands that seem to draw me,
And my pulses throb and thaw me,
There's an unseen something tells me
That I'm just about to fall.
Nothing's dearer, and you know it,
That his virtue to a poet.
So you want to
turn that picture
to the wall.

SIDE LIGHTS OF DAWSON

By J. Q. Adams

Life in Dawson is not the cheerless existence that those in other centers of civilization and art, who lack the imagination to comprehend an experience foreign to their own, believe. It is not an experience of settled gloom, as many suppose, for we, too, have our cakes and ale. Theatres, opera houses, dances, musicales and congenial companionship at the clubs serve to divert and console the exile, especially if he finds his stay is to be longer than he expected. After the cares that infest the day have folded their tents, the nights are literally filled with music by street musicians of eminent artistic ability, whose symphonies, by the way, have no tendency to soothe the savage breast. Along the "line" gleam the electric lights, and the streets are crowded with surging masses of humanity seeking diversion. There is no dead calm; a steady current sets toward the theatres, the Barker in front of the dancing academy vociferously and continuously invites all to promenade. There is a flow of purpose in the direction of Fortune's many temples, and the voice of the crap player is heard in the land.

The primrose path is punctuated here and there by flashes of crimson—the "ignes fatui" of the wanderer from the straight and narrow—the intermittent glitter of which is eclipsed only by the glimmer of the dawn. There is no curfew—all through the noisy watches of the night the spirit of unrest hovers over all, to disappear only when Father Time lays the foundation of another day.

The Klondike Mill company, under the efficient management of F. G. Noyes, enjoys a large trade in mining timber, and has furnished the lumber in use on many of the best claims in the district.

The revenue derived by the government from the sale of timber and land interests, including the water front, for the fiscal year ending July 31, 1899, was \$125,000.

The new Hotel McDonald is now open for business.

KLONDIKE MILL COMPANY

Largest Mill and Manufacturing Plant
North of VANCOUVER, B. C.

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN

Lumber, Sash, Doors

AND ALL KINDS OF

BUILDING MATERIAL

2,000,000 Feet of Lumber in Stock

SAW MILL and Planing MILL the most complete and extensive in the Yukon Valley. Equipped with all modern machinery, making the plant an up-to-date and model one.
All orders promptly filled with well seasoned and selected lumber cut from first-class logs.
Prompt delivery and good work is the aim of the firm.

TO BUILDERS:--All Kinds of Inside Finishings Made to Order

Sluice, Flume and Mining Lumber

a Specialty. Nearest and most convenient mill to the mines.

F. G. NOYES,

General Manger

TELEPHONE No. 25

MILL AND OFFICE: DAWSON, Y. T.

J. B. AGEN'S



Best Creamery Butter

IN 2-LB. SQUARE, KEY-OPENING CANS

AS FAMOUS AS THE GOLD FIELDS OF ALASKA

When Buying Butter, Look Out for the Name, Label and Can of

J. B. AGEN'S THAT HAS STOOD THE TEST

HEAD OFFICE: COR. MARION AND WESTERN AVE., SEATTLE, WASH.

This building remained
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Important Announcement to Mine Owners and Builders

The Dawson Saw Mill and Building Co., O. W. Hobbs, proprietor, has undertaken a new industry to meet the demands for more pretentious and permanent building in Dawson and the Yukon District, in the establishment of an extensive and complete brick yard and lime kiln on the banks of the Yukon river.

The pioneers in this new enterprise, no pains or expense have been spared to make their plant as complete and ample as can be found in the important centers of Canada and the United States.

A quarter million of brick and twenty-five tons of lime are stored in their yards and warehouses ready and at hand to build anything from a brick flue to a pretentious business block or frost-proof ware or store houses.

The company owns and operates its own saw mill and in connection has a large planing mill and wood working establishment, and is in a position to furnish dressed lumber of all kinds, flooring, ceiling, rustic mouldings, doors, sash, roller top desks and furniture of all kinds at the lowest prices.

Also a full line of builders' hardware, tar paper, and wall paper.

The Undertaking Establishment is the best in the Yukon, having the only line of burial clothes and casket trimmings north of Juneau. Bodies embalmed for outside shipment.

The whirl of machinery and the sound of the hammer is heard on all sides in this beehive of industry, and the above new branches introduced are but an earnest of the future activity of this firm.

*The Dawson Saw Mill and Building Co.
Office and Planing Mill: 473 First Avenue.*

